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FBIS-EAS-93-224 CONTENTS *23 November 1993*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

U.S.-EC Agricultural Talks' Influence Viewed *[Tokyo TV]* 1
Farm Minister Hata Inspects Imported Rice *[KYODO]* 1
Sea of Japan Governors' Summit Proposed *[KYODO]* 1
Number of Arrested Chinese Illegals Reaches 91 *[KYODO]* 2
Government Agrees on Donation to Uganda *[KYODO]* 2
Survey: Over 60 Percent of Firms To Cut Jobs *[KYODO]* 2

North Korea

U.S. Urged To Remove 'Biochemical Weapons' *[KCNA]* 3
Daily on ROK President's Remarks in Seattle *[KCNA]* 3
Kim Yong-sam's Remarks in Los Angeles Criticized *[Pyongyang Radio]* 4
Groups Denounce ROK President's U.S. Trip *[KCNA]* 5
Society of Koreans in Japan Denounces Exercises *[KCNA]* 5
ROK Students Vow To Check Japanese Militarism *[KCNA]* 5
Official's Statement Distributed as UN Documents *[KCNA]* 5
DPRK, PRC Celebrate 40 Years of Cooperation *[KCNA]* 5
Provincial Amity Delegation Leaves for PRC *[Pyongyang Radio]* 6
Delegations Leave for Indonesia, PRC Visits *[KCNA]* 6
Meeting Held in Japan To Support Reunification *[KCNA]* 6
WPK Delegation Leaves for British Convention *[Pyongyang Radio]* 7
Premier Greets Central African Counterpart *[KCNA]* 7
Kim Il-song Receives Gift From Zimbabwe *[KCNA]* 7
    Kim Chong-il Receives Gift *[KCNA]* 7
Kang Song-san Greets Moroccan Prime Minister *[KCNA]* 7
Foreign Minister Greets Moroccan Counterpart *[KCNA]* 7
Association Commemorates Lebanese Independence *[KCNA]* 8
Proposal for Reunification Supported Abroad *[KCNA]* 8
Supreme People's Assembly To Convene 9 Dec *[KCNA]* 8
Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il Visit Science Academy *[Pyongyang Radio]* 8
    KCNA Reports Academy Tour 9
Institute Holds Seminar on Kim Il-song's Work *[KCNA]* 10
Local Assembly Elections Held 'Successfully' *[KCNA]* 10
Meeting Marks Third Anniversary of Pomminnyon *[KCNA]* 10
Harvest Statistics for Sukchon County Noted *[KCNA]* 11
Daily Denounces 'Bourgeois Democracy' *[KCNA]* 12

South Korea

President's Activities in Washington Reported 12
    Visits Arlington Cemetery, Congress *[YONHAP]* 12
    Further on Congress Luncheon *[YONHAP]* 13
    Speaks at American University *[YONHAP]* 13
    Accepts Harriman Democracy Award *[YONHAP]* 14
    Kim-Clinton 24 Nov Talks Previewed *[YONHAP]* 14
U.S. Report on ROK Losing Ground War Refuted *[YONHAP]* 15
Former N-S Negotiator on 'Fabrication' Case *[YONHAP]* 15
Country To Exclude Rice From Market Opening *[YONHAP]* 15

Companies in 'Fight' Over French Train Contract *[YONHAP]* 16
Agreement Signed With Poland on Visa Rules *[YONHAP]* 17
Papers Comment on Results of APEC Summit *[CHOSON ILBO 22 Nov, etc.]* 17
EC Imposes Anti-Dumping Tariff on Batteries *[YONHAP]* 17
UN's FAO Elects ROK to Third Council Term *[YONHAP]* 18
* No Tae-u's Secret Emissary to PRC Interviewed *[CHUGAN CHOSON 16 Sep]* 18
* Concern Over Japan Philanthropist's Intent *[SISA JOURNAL 16 Sep]* 20
DLP Asks Farmers To Accept Rice Purchase Plan *[YONHAP]* 23
Ministry's Plan To Revise Secret Law Noted *[YONHAP]* 24
Defense Ministry Oversees Helicopter Manufacture 24
    Selects Samsung Aerospace *[YONHAP]* 24
    Korean Air Refuses License Transfer *[YONHAP]* 24
    Consistent Policy Urged *[HANGUK ILBO 22 Nov]* 25
* Next Targets for Kim Yong-sam's Reform Noted *[CHUGAN CHOSON 23 Sep]* 25
* Paper Profiles Chief Justice Yun Kwan *[CHUGAN CHOSON 7 Oct]* 27
Building Licenses for Foreign Firms in 1994 *[YONHAP]* 29
Development Bank Projects 7% Growth Till '97 *[YONHAP]* 29
Customs Procedures To Be Simplified Next Year *[YONHAP]* 30
Stock Market Deposits Exceed 3 Trillion Won *[YONHAP]* 30

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Reaction to Khin Nyunt Offer for Peace Talks 31
    Opposition Figures Comment *[London International]* 31
    Offer for Talks Examined *[London International]* 32
Delegation Returns From Population Meeting *[Rangoon Radio]* 32
Than Shwe Accepts Ambassador's Credentials *[Rangoon Radio]* 32

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Commentary Views Importance of APEC Meeting *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 32
New Political Party Established in Sabah *[NEW SUNDAY TIMES 21 Nov]* 33
Mahathir Says No 'Rush' on Cabinet Changes *[NEW SUNDAY TIMES 21 Nov]* 33

Singapore

Article Views Achievements at APEC Summit *[BUSINESS TIMES 22 Nov]* 34

Cambodia

Khieu Samphan Responds to Sihanouk's Message *[Radio VGNUFC]* 35
250,000 Tonnes of Rice Aid Said Needed *[AKP]* 36
Prospect for Compromise With Khmer Rouge Viewed *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 36
Sar Kheng Described as Most Powerful Figure *[PHNOM PENH POST 19 Nov-2 Dec]* 37
Ranariddh: Khmer Rouge Hinder Government Talks *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 40
Hun Sen Says Door Still Open to Khmer Rouge *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 40
Military Activities Reported for 7-16 Nov *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 40

Indonesia

Commentaries Hail APEC Achievements, Goals 41
    'Forum for Consultation,' Dialogue *[Jakarta Radio]* 41
    Dailies Comment on Outcome *[Jakarta Radio]* 41
Jakarta's 1994 APEC Chairmanship Discussed *[Jakarta Radio]* 42
Envoy Criticizes Australian Human Rights Report *[Jakarta Radio]* 42
Minister Views Outcome of PNG Border Talks *[Jakarta Radio]* 42

Laos

Talks Held With SRV Ethnic Minorities Group *[Vientiane Radio]* 43
More Refugees Return Home From Thailand *[Vientiane Radio]* 43
Thongsing Thammavong Outlines Meeting Goals *[Vientiane Radio]* 43

Philippines

Muslim Rebel Leader Nur Misuari Interviewed *[TEMPO 6 Nov]* 43

Thailand

Paper Examines APEC Disagreement With U.S. *[THE NATION 22 Nov]* 45
Saudi Special Envoy Denies Improved Ties *[THE NATION 23 Nov]* 46
Police Arrest Burmese With Weapons, Explosives *[AFP]* 47
Commerce Minister Uthai Promotes Exports *[THAILAND TIMES 20 Nov]* 47
Government Initiative on East Timor Talks Urged *[THE NATION 22 Nov]* 48
Opposition MP Links Attack to Army Rangers *[THE NATION 20 Nov]* 49

Vietnam

Communist Party Delegation Visits Beijing *[VNA]* 49
Singapore's Lee Kwan Yew Concludes Visit *[VNA]* 50
Military Delegation Visits Thailand 15-21 Nov *[VNA]* 50
Lao Provincial Delegation Visits Hai Hung *[VNA]* 50
Trade Delegation Visits Chile 12-16 Nov *[VNA]* 50
Commentary Discusses Use of International Aid *[Hanoi International]* 51
Relations With Foreign Aid Organizations Viewed *[Hanoi International]* 51
Peasants Association Holds Second Congress 51
  Do Muoi Speech, Part I *[Hanoi Radio]* 51
  Do Muoi Speech, Part II *[Hanoi Radio]* 53
  Peasants Congress Concludes *[Hanoi Radio]* 54
Do Muoi at National Students Congress Opening *[VNA]* 55
Vo Van Kiet Attends Vietsovpetro Gathering *[Hanoi Radio]* 55
Vice President Visits Tra Vinh Province *[Hanoi Radio]* 56
Leaders Attend Seminar on Culture in Hanoi *[Hanoi Radio]* 56
Radio Comments on First Catholic Congress *[Hanoi International]* 56
Government Issues Directive on Land Law *[Hanoi Radio]* 57
Province Takes Action Against Illegal Loggers *[Hanoi Radio]* 57

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Officials React to Keating Criticism of Mahathir *[Melbourne International]* 58

Japan

U.S.-EC Agricultural Talks' Influence Viewed

OW2311062993 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Announcer-read report over video; from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] The two-day ministerial talks between the United States and the European Community opened in Washington on 22 November. Attention is now centered on these talks since they may have a great influence on the issue of Japan's liberalization of its rice market pending at the Uruguay Round talks.

The U.S.-EC talks have started between U.S. Trade Representative Kantor and EC Commissioner Brittan in charge of foreign economic relations. Prior to the talks, Commissioner Brittan stressed to the reporter corps that he would like to see conclusions made in one way or another on various issues, including agricultural issues. However, in his answers to questions by a reporters' group while the talks were still in progress, U.S. Trade Representative Kantor stated that there would be little possibility for the United States and the EC to settle all problems pending between the two sides at the current talks.

Despite the fact that details of the talks have not been revealed, it is observed that among topics discussed is one on ways to revise methods of reducing the quantity of grains exported with subsidies. The two sides once reached an accord on this issue last November.

Among the most important issues to be discussed at the Uruguay Round talks are agricultural issues that are discussed at the current talks, as well as the issue of Japan's liberalization of its rice market. Japan has already started its final consultations with the United States on agreement on rice import on the conditions that while quantity should be reduced, its decision on agreeing to rice tariffication will be postponed. However, in the long run, Japan will decide on concrete measures concerning liberalization of its rice market while keeping a watch on the progress at the U.S.-EC talks. Therefore, attention is now centered on results of the current talks held between the United States and the EC.

Farm Minister Hata Inspects Imported Rice

OW2011112893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1054 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] Yokohama, Nov. 20 KYODO—Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Eijiro Hata said Saturday [20 November] he has detected no safety problem from the first batch of foreign rice imported from Thailand on Thursday. Hata, who visited Yokohama Port to inspect some of the 7,000 tons of Thai rice, told reporters he is well aware that foreign rice safety is the biggest matter of public concern.

The farm minister said he can assure the Japanese people there is no need to worry about the rice.

On Thursday, a Panamanian-registered freighter arrived at Yokohama Port carrying the first batch of imported rice to make up for the shortfall caused by this year's poor domestic rice harvest. Domestic rice growers have protested to the government over the import, while consumer groups have expressed worries about the possible use of chemicals.

The first Thai rice shipment was part of 200,000 tons of rice to be imported for use in processed foods by the end of this year.

The government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa has said that it intends to import an additional 900,000 tons of table-use rice. Japan's rice shortfall may reach 2 million tons because of this year's poor harvest.

Sea of Japan Governors' Summit Proposed

OW2311094493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0926 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Fukuoka, Nov. 23 KYODO—Representatives from 16 prefectures facing the Sea of Japan proposed Tuesday [23 November] holding a governors' summit in 1994 to discuss preservation of the environment and establishment of a social infrastructure in the region. The proposal was made in a statement issued Tuesday at the end of a forum sponsored by the Social Democratic Party (SDP), the largest of seven parties in the ruling coalition.

The statement also called on the government, local autonomous bodies and universities to undertake studies to safeguard the environment and promote management of fishery resources.

The SDP hopes to convene the Sea of Japan governors' summit around next June, a party official said. The party has already gained basic endorsement for the summit plan, the official said.

The governors of Fukuoka and Hokkaido, the largest of the 16 prefectures facing the Sea of Japan, have both won elections under the SDP's backing.

During the two-day forum attended by some 220 people, academics, prefectural and municipal officials, international exchange experts, and fishery representatives discussed a wide range of themes concerning regional exchanges and development.

The Sea of Japan rim prefectures range from Hokkaido in the north to Fukuoka, Saga and Nagasaki Prefectures in the south. Development in those prefectures, particularly on Honshu island, is far behind that of prefectures facing the Pacific which include Japan's three biggest business centers of Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya.

Number of Arrested Chinese Illegals Reaches 91

OW2311131693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1302 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Wakayama, Nov. 23 KYODO—The number of Chinese arrested on suspicion of entering Japan illegally by boat Monday [22 November] reached 91 late Tuesday, police said. Police threw 40 searchers and a helicopter into the hunt for the group Tuesday.

The Chinese are believed to have landed in a small bay near the Shirahama hot spring resort in Wakayama Prefecture, some 100 kilometers south of Osaka, early Monday morning.

Investigations show the 200-ton fishing vessel No. 1 Zhenyang carried about 100 passengers, some of whom were dropped off at other locations before it reached Shirahama. The Chinese so far arrested include nine women and are aged from 16 up to about 50 years old, police said.

The body of an unidentified man in his 30s to 40s was recovered Tuesday from waters nearby, police said. But it is not known whether the man was one of the Chinese.

Police said the boat set sail from China's coastal province of Fujian. Some 35 of those arrested were carrying personal documents issued by the Fujian provincial government and about half of them were carrying Japanese currency—30,000 yen at most, police said.

The captain of the boat and a man considered to be the group's leader were among those rounded up, police said.

Government Agrees on Donation to Uganda

OW2311075893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0755 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 23 KYODO—The government agreed Tuesday [23 November] to grant Uganda 1,965 million yen in aid, the Foreign Ministry said. Of the total, 1,436 million yen will be used to improve an electric power supply network in the Kampala metropolitan area, the ministry said.

The East African nation will spend 500 million yen to improve its economic structure and repay its external debts, and will allocate 29 million yen to improve national welfare, the ministry said.

Survey: Over 60 Percent of Firms To Cut Jobs

OW2311075593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0650 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 23 KYODO—Over 60 percent of major Japanese firms have cut or plan to cut jobs to overcome the prolonged recession, a survey by KYODO NEWS SERVICE showed Tuesday. These companies are not only resorting to natural decreases in their work force by hiring fewer new recruits but are also laying off workers temporarily or seeking voluntary retirement of employees.

The survey was conducted on 100 big firms which released interim financial reports for the six-month period which ended September 30.

According to the poll, 57 of those surveyed said they have enforced employment adjustment programs while five others report plans to take similar steps. The employment adjustments have covered both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors, symbolizing the seriousness of the current economic slowdown.

The survey showed that 45 of the manufacturers, or 66.2 percent, and 12 of the nonmanufacturers, or 46.2 percent, said they have enforced or will enforce personnel adjustments.

It showed that 51 manufacturing companies, or 82.3 percent, said they have either implemented or plan to implement personnel reduction through attrition, while 31, or 50 percent, have relocated their employees to subsidiaries and affiliates.

Other companies also enforced regulations on overtime work, reduced part-time workers, temporarily laid off employees, increased the number of holidays and sought voluntary retirement, the survey showed.

Most companies resorted to moderate means for job cuts, while Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp., Japan Airlines Co. and Victor Co. of Japan (JVC) enforced the voluntary retirement method.

The employment adjustment is designed to reduce staff bloated during the domestic "bubble economy," and has shaken Japan's traditional life-time employment and seniority systems, economic analysts said.

The Nikko Research Center, a think tank affiliated with Nikko Securities Co., estimated the number of surplus workers held by Japanese corporations at 2.35 million. The analysts predicted that automobile, electrical and steel makers may step up job cuts if their business performances continue to worsen.

Four major automakers—Nissan Motor Co., Mazda Motor Corp., Honda Motor Co. and Daihatsu Motor Co.—have already announced plans to carry out major personnel reduction programs while JVC is seeking voluntary retirements of 1,500 managerial personnel over 50 years of age.

Major steel firms, including Nippon Steel Corp., also plan to cut a substantial number of jobs.

About 90 percent of the firms surveyed said they plan to cut the number of new recruits next spring by an average 36 percent.

North Korea

U.S. Urged To Remove 'Biochemical Weapons'

SK2311105993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—The United States must immediately withdraw its biochemical weapons as well as nuclear weapons from South Korea and prevent South Korea from producing biochemical weapons, urged a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Interviewed by KCNA today as regards the recent disclosure of new material proving that the United States staged a biochemical warfare during the Korean war, the spokesman said:

Recently, the Japanese TOKYO SHIMBUN made public material telling that the United States fully prepared a biochemical warfare and staged it in the Korean war.

According to a copied text of a top secret document of the U.S. Defence Department found at the U.S. state archives in Washington the U.S. forces went ahead with full preparations for a biochemical warfare to use germ and toxic weapons during the Korean war. The then chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force suggested that the former policy on biochemical weapons stipulating that "they shall be used only for the purpose of retaliation" be given up. This irrefutably proves that the United States used germ and toxic weapons at random in the Korean war.

Such a crime committed by the United States was already proved through the testimonies of U.S. airmen who were taken prisoner while participating in the poison gas and bacteriological warfare in the Korean war. It was also made clear by an international lawyers investigation group, a fact-finding group of the Women's International Democratic Federation and a scientists' fact-finding group on the use of germ weapons.

The United States, however, has denied the stark fact well known in the world.

Criminal acts are bound to be revealed any time.

As the crimes committed by it in the Korean war have been fully revealed through its document, the United States can no longer evade the responsibility for the violation of the universally recognized international law and elementary human morality.

The danger of nuclear war and chemical warfare has not been dispelled on the Korean peninsula still today when 40 years have passed since the Korean war ceased.

After the ceasefire, the United States has amassed nuclear and chemical weapons in South Korea. The South Korean authorities who had zealously taken part in the bio-chemical warfare during the Korean and Vietnamese wars have pushed ahead with the preparations for a chemical warfare, producing and stockpiling a large number of chemical weapons with the connivance of the United States.

The United States and the South Korean authorities themselves who signed the convention on banning chemical weapons and have urged other countries to do the same are now getting overheated with the preparations for a chemical warfare. This is a gross mockery of the international community.

Having committed indelible grave crimes against mankind, the United States and the South Korean authorities customarily deny them in a far-fetched manner and abandon their obligations under the international convention without hesitation. Yet, they are ridiculously trying to isolate and stifle our republic, vainly suspecting and cavilling about our non-existent "nuclear problem".

We who had directly suffered damages from biochemical weapons and are better aware of its danger than anyone else have considered the use of bio-chemical weapons as an inhuman criminal act and are now maintaining a resolute stand against it.

The South Korean authorities must give up the criminal scheme to murder the fellow countrymen by manufacturing bio- chemical weapons with the backing of the outside forces.

Daily on ROK President's Remarks in Seattle

SK2311050293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 23 Nov 93

["Foolish Act of Flunkeyist"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sam in "talks" held in Seattle, the United States, told that the "North's nuclear development has become the focal point of worldwide concern" and "Japan, too, might arm itself with nuclear weapons because of it."

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says this is a foolish act of a flunkeyist.

The analyst further says:

With such remarks, Kim Yong-sam took issue with fellow countrymen and ranged himself on the side of the Japanese reactionaries trying to become a military power armed with nuclear weapons. This is a revelation of his true color as a traitor to the nation.

As for Kim Yong-sam, he is a traitor who has served outside forces for the maintenance of their colonial rule, haunting the political circles of South Korea from several dozen years ago with the subsidy and political fund granted by them. He is also a despicable political mountebank and political prostitute who took over tme baton of dictatorship in return for such treacherous act as throwing in his lot with the military dictator of the "sixth republic", betraying the people's desire for independence and democracy.

He is impairing the dignity of the nation externally, engaged in disgusting treacherous acts, entreating the "security of the regime" to prolong his days with the backing of his master. He is also pursuing sycophantic diplomacy, crying for "international cooperation system" and "sanctions by the United Nations" under the pretext of the fictitious "North's nuclear problem," which may result in the sacrifice and destruction of the nation.

He who has not only followed in the footsteps of the preceding traitors but overshadowed them will have to be held responsible before the nation for the consequences of the traitorous policies and flunkeyist acts he has pursued at home and abroad and pay dearly for them.

Kim Yong-sam's Remarks in Los Angeles Criticized

SK2211144893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1154 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Unattributed commentary: "An Absurd Outburst by an Antireunification Element"]

[Text] The South Korean ruler Kim Yong-sam, on a junket to the United States, made vicious remarks at a meeting with Korean residents in Los Angeles. Listening to the Korean residents who expressed a desire to do business with the North, he flatly rejected the idea, saying that they can only do so when the North's nuclear issue has been resolved. Babbling about the lesson learned from German reunification, he raved that one should not think of reunification in a fantastic way.

Like the saying, "The gourd dipper which leaks at home also leaks outside the home," he, who kept inspiring anti-North confrontations in South Korea, mentioned the fictitious nuclear issue of ours even when he went overseas and interfered with the Korean residents' trade with the fellow countrymen, thus throwing a wet blanket over the zeal for reunification. This is a very vicious act he perpetrated.

For our nation which has been suffering from the pain of national division for nearly a half century, nothing is of greater vital interest than reunification. The only way for our nation to survive is for the entire nation in the North, the South, and overseas to unite and stop the foreign forces' aggression and interference and reunify the country independently and peacefully. If he had had one drop of Korean blood in his body, he would not have dared to make such an absurd antireconciliation and antireunification outburst, instead of a remark to help national reconciliation, unity, and reunification.

Kim Yong-sam made this remark following his interview with the U.S. LOS ANGELES TIMES several days ago, in which he made an extremely flunkeyist traitorous remark that the foreign force should remain in South Korea even after the reunification, thus enraging the fellow countrymen. This shows well what a crazy traitor he is who is occupied with confrontation and division.

As for the North's nuclear issue, which he mentioned again, is, as has already been exposed, a fiction made up by the imperialist reactionaries aimed at crushing [apsal] our Republic, the socialist fortress. Those—who have brought and deployed numerous foreign nuclear weapons in South Korea and are increasing nuclear threat, growing their own nuclear mushroom under the foreign country's nuclear umbrella—are making commotions, criticizing us who have neither nuclear weapons nor the intention of producing them. This is a brazen-faced act like a thief turning on the owner.

The South Korean ruling bunch raves about the suspicion of the North's nuclear development in order to use it as an anti-North, antireconciliation, and antireunification card. The specific instances of this is that under the pretext of our so-called nuclear issue, the South Korean ruling bunch has suspended the North-South dialogue, which was carried on even during the time of the Fifth and Sixth Republic dictatorship, challenged the fellow countrymen who were extending a hand of goodwill for reconciliation and unity by conducting nuclear war exercises one after another, and as a shock brigade of nuclear commotions, it is busy with a scheme for an international mutual assistance system.

Furthermore, the South Korean ruling bunch made a violent remark that it will not hesitate to take military countermeasures, issued an order to the puppet Armed Forces for an emergency alert posture, which is comparable to the combat alert posture in time of emergency, and conducted adventurous war exercises called "Foal Eagle-93" and "Hwarang," thus engulfing the entire land of the South in gun smoke. One of the major purposes of Kim Yong-sam's U.S. junket is to hold an insidious conference over our so-called nuclear issue. Kim Yong-sam, who made a sweet statement in his inauguration that no allies can be better than the nation, has completely taken off his mask today after the passage of nine months and has indulged in frenzied maneuvers for confrontation and war, regarding the fellow countrymen as an enemy, more frantically than his military dictator predecessors. He has now been branded as a civilian confrontation maniac and a civilian warmonger.

If the South Korean civilian ruling bunch, contracting the sleep walking disease of dreaming of reunification by defeating communism, tries to gain something from the pursuit of confrontation and war against the fellow countrymen, it is grossly miscalculating. Those who try to block the powerful grand march of the fellow countrymen heading for national unity and reunification, whoever they may be, will be subjected to the plight of being thrown into the sewage of history. The civilian ruling bunch, which is treading in his dictatorial predecessors' steps, will meet with the same fate.

Groups Denounce ROK President's U.S. Trip

SK2311004593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2221 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—Koreans' organisations in Los Angeles, the United States, the One Korea Movement, "the Institute of the Korean Nation," the Society of Democratic Youth and Students, the Women's Society for Reunification, the "South Korean Women's Society," and the "South Korean Women's Patriotic Corps," released a joint statement on November 11 denouncing the South Korean ruler Kim Yong-sam's trip to the United States.

The statement demanded an immediate stop to all military exercises against the fellow countrymen including "Team Spirit" and to the anti-national acts of seeking "international cooperation system" on the plea of the fictitious "nuclear development" of the DPRK.

It urged that Kim Yong-sam's "government" advocating "civilian politics" should not suppress debates on and movements for reunification of civilians including the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification, the South Korean Federation of General Student Councils and other non-governmental organisations for reunification, but abolish the "National Security Law" and other evil laws and repressive machines and liquidate the remnants of the military dictatorial "regime".

Meanwhile, Koreans of six organisations including the One Korea Movement staged a demonstration in front of the Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles, where Kim Yong-sam was staying, and the city office building on November 17 and 18, calling for independence, peaceful reunification through great national unity.

Society of Koreans in Japan Denounces Exercises

SK2211113993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Tokyo November 19 (KNS-KCNA)—Kim Chong-su, chairman of the Society of Koreans in Japan for Peace and Reunification, in his statement issued to the press on November 19 branded the "Foal Eagle 93" nuclear war exercises of the United States and the South Korean authorities as a dangerous war gamble which spirals the situation of the Korean peninsula to the limit and threatens peace.

He stressed that the South Korean authorities standing for "civilian politics" should give up the mode of thinking of war, confrontation and dependence on foreign forces if they have willingness to solve all problems including the "nuclear problem" through dialogue.

ROK Students Vow To Check Japanese Militarism

SK2211114193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1056 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—The Inchon and Kyonggi Provincial Federation of General Student Councils (Kyonginchongnyon) in South Korea in a statement November 3 declared that 200,000 students under Kyonginchongnyon would dynamically fight to check militarism of Japan and achieve a peaceful reunification in 1995.

Japan is going back to the road of the "new greater East Asia coprosperity sphere" with no sign of radically liquidating its past, the statement said, adding: Seventy million fellow countrymen in the North, the South and overseas are faced with a historical task to achieve national reunification with the great unity of the whole nation at an early date, holding higher the [words indistinct] of anti-Japanese national independence.

Japan must liquidate the past colonial rule and thoroughly probe, honestly apologize and properly compensate for the war crimes and include materials about Japan's atrocities in the war in all the history textbooks including textbooks for primary and middle schools to prevent the recurrence of the colonial rule and leave it as a historical lesson, the statement said, and continued:

The issue of the "volunteers corps" is not merely a matter of compensation but a problem of establishing the legitimacy of national history. As it is the matter of our whole nation, it must be settled on the principle of legitimacy and reasonableness.

To cope with militarism of Japan, the nuclear problem and the North-South problems must be solved amid the national concern of the entire people in the North and the South, the statement stressed.

Official's Statement Distributed as UN Documents

SK2211062293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0525 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—The statement of Kang Sok-chu, first vice-minister of foreign affairs and head of the DPRK side's delegation to DPRK-USA talks, was distributed on November 15 as a document of the UN General Assembly A/48/594 and an official document of the UN Security Council S/26733.

The statement which was published on November 11 contains the stand of the DPRK that the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula can never be solved through pressure but it can be solved only through dialogue and negotiation and if the DPRK-U.S. talks of the third stage are held and an agreement is reached on the formula of package solution there, a definite prospect for the settlement of the nuclear problem will be opened.

DPRK, PRC Celebrate 40 Years of Cooperation

SK2311054893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—The State External Economic Affairs Commission and the Ministry of Culture and Art hosted a reception at the

People's Palace of Culture on Monday evening on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the signing of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the DPRK and the People's Republic of China.

Speaking at the reception, Han Su-kil, vice-chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission, said the Chinese people have made great achievements in the endeavours to build socialism with Chinese characteristics, carrying out the tasks set forth by the 14th congress of the Communist Party of China and the first session of the 8th National People's Congress.

The Korean people rejoice at the successes made by the PRC, their neighbour, in socialist construction, and wish that all things will go well in China in the future, too, he noted.

Speaking next, Chinese Ambassador to Korea Qiao Zonghuai said that under the leadership of Comrade President Kim Il-song, Comrade Kim Chong-il and the Workers' Party of Korea the Korean people are waging a stubborn struggle to build the anthropocentric Korean-style socialism and realize the independent and peaceful reunification of the country by implementing the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country put forward by comrade president.

He noted that for China and Korea to continue to strengthen and develop the cooperative relations in the economic and cultural domains under the present-day complicated international situation is of very weighty significance in accelerating socialist construction in the two countries and consolidating the traditional friendship between the two peoples.

Vice-Premier and Minister of Culture and Art Chang Chol, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Kyu-il and others were present at the reception.

Provincial Amity Delegation Leaves for PRC

SK2211094493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 18 Nov 93

[Text] A South Hwanghae Provincial friendship delegation led by Choe Hung-chu, chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial Administrative and Economic Committee, left Pyongyang for China by train on 18 November. The delegation was seen off at Pyongyang Station by Kim Chang-pok, vice chairman of the South Hwanghae Provincial Administrative and Economic Committee, and a councillor at the PRC Embassy in our country.

Delegations Leave for Indonesia, PRC Visits

SK2311020993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2205 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—Delegation of the DPRK Information Committee headed by its Chairman Kim Ki-yong to visit Indonesia and a government scientific and technical cooperation delegation of Korea headed by Vice-Chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology Kim Ung-ho to visit China left here Monday by train.

Meeting Held in Japan To Support Reunification

SK2211113693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—An appeal and a letter to the Korean people were adopted at the 12th national meeting of the Movement for Support to Korea's Reunification held in Japan on November 15.

"Although a new phase has been opened on the Korean peninsula with the publication of the historical joint statement through DPRK-USA talks, suppression of the people's reunification movement in South Korea is intensifying as ever like at the time of the military 'regime'", the appeal says.

It goes on:

"We support the South Korean people's demand that Kim Yong-sam's 'civilian regime' honour the commitments it made at the time of its inauguration, and urge the South Korean authorities to discontinue suppression of the people, stop the row of "nuclear suspicion of the North' and promote the North-South dialogue.

"We demand that the Hosokawa cabinet end the Japan-South Korea fusion, probe the truth behind the Kim Tae-chung incident, implement the three-party joint declaration of Japan and DPRK in good faith and thus contribute to a peaceful reunification of Korea and to peace in Asia.

"We will strengthen solidarity with the movement of the Korean people for carrying into effect the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation and with organizations of the world including the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace in Korea and conduct a vigorous movement for support to Korea's reunification, expressing solidarity for the struggle of the victims to call to account those responsible for the unsettled war-related issues.

"We appeal to people across the country and the people all over the world who love peace and justice to render understanding and cooperation to our movement."

The letter to the Korean people says:

"We strongly protest to some officials of the United Nations Secretariat and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) against their fabrication of a 'letter' of the UN secretary general to put an unjust international pressure upon the DPRK and hinder the implementation of the declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

"We urge the United States to support Korea's reunification as it promised in the DPRK-US joint statement and to approach the settlement of issues in good faith.

"Kim Yong-sam's 'regime' must remain faithful to the North- South agreement and joint declaration on denuclearization.

"The Japanese Government must make all sincere efforts for the solution of the problem of forcible drafting of Koreans and 'comfort women for the Army'.

"We vow once again to strive for the development of the support movement in Japan and, at the same time, strengthen solidarity with different organizations including the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace in Korea, cooperate with the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in its activities and struggle together with the Korean people."

WPK Delegation Leaves for British Convention

SK2211094093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 18 Nov 93

[Text] A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] led by Won Tong-ku, member of the WPK Central Committee and director of a department of the party Central Committee, left Pyongyang by plane on 18 November to participate in the 42d convention of the Communist Party of Britain and the ninth convention of the New Communist Party of Britain. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Pak Kyong-Son, deputy director of a department of the WPK Central Committee.

Premier Greets Central African Counterpart

SK2211065893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0529 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—Kang Song-san, premier of the DPRK Administration Council, sent a message of greetings to Jean-Luc Mandaba upon his election as prime minister of the Central African Republic.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries would continue to grow stronger and develop, the message wished him great success in his responsible work.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Simon Bedayangaro upon his appointment as minister of foreign affairs and French-speaking countries of Central Africa.

Kim Il-song Receives Gift From Zimbabwe

SK2311051093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a gift from Comrade Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary and president of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front [ZANU-PF] and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

The gift was handed to secretary of the WPK Central Committee Hwang Chang-yop by Stephen Nkomo, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the C.C., the ZANU-PF, on a visit to Korea.

Kim Chong-il Receives Gift

SK2311053393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from Comrade Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary and president of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

The gift was handed to secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea Hwang Chang-yop by Stephen Nkomo, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the ZANU-PF, on a visit to Korea.

Kang Song-san Greets Moroccan Prime Minister

SK2211072393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0527 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK, sent a message of greetings to Mohamed Karim Lambrani upon his reelection as prime minister of the Kingdom of Morocco.

Expressing the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries would continue to develop in accordance with the interests of their peoples, the message wished him success in his responsible work.

Foreign Minister Greets Moroccan Counterpart

SK2311045493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Abdellatif al Filali on his appointment as minister of state in charge of Foreign Affairs and cooperation of the Kingdom of Morocco.

The message expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries would continue to develop and sincerely wished him success in his work.

Association Commemorates Lebanese Independence

SK2311045193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0424 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—A meeting commemorating the 50th anniversary of the independence of Lebanon was sponsored by the Korea-Lebanon Friendship Association in Pyongyang on November 22.

Participating in the meeting were Pak Su-tong, chairman of the Central Committee of the Union of Agricultural Working People and chairman of the Korea-Lebanon Friendship Association, and officials concerned and working people in the city.

The meeting heard a speech and adopted a message of greetings to the president of the Republic of Lebanon.

Proposal for Reunification Supported Abroad

SK2211113093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—Functions took place in different countries in the month of support to the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo (DCRK).

A closing session of the month of support to the proposal for founding the DCRK was held under the cosponsorship of the Mozambican Committee for Friendship with the People of the DPRK and the Maputo City Committee of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party.

Amaral Matos, first secretary of the Maputo City Committee of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party, in his speech at the [word indistinct] that the great leader President Kim Il-song put forward the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation to reunify the country through a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments.

He expressed full support and solidarity for the proposal of reunification through confederacy, expressing the belief that Korea can be reunified only through this proposal.

He stressed that the Korean people will reunify the country in the 90s without fail under the wise leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army and the leader of the Workers' Party of Korea.

A letter of solidarity to the Korean people and a message of protest denouncing the "letter-conveying" farce of some quarters of the UN Secretariat and the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] were adopted at the meeting.

The letter of solidarity to the Korean people said "we hold that Korea should be reunified in accordance with the proposal for founding the DCRK and '10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country' put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song."

The message of protest said that some quarters of the UN secretariat and the IAEA Secretariat engrossed in despicable acts to suffocate and destroy socialist Korea must be punished severely.

It noted that the Korean "nuclear issue" should be settled through DPRK-U.S. talks, and they should refrain from trying to "internationalize" it, such as raising it with the United Nations.

A closing ceremony of the month of support to the proposal for founding the DCRK also took place in Finland.

A letter to President Kim Il-song was adopted there.

A meeting for solidarity with the Korean people was held in New Amsterdam of Guyana and a function for solidarity with the Korean people organized by the Communist Party-KPML (R) [Communist Party Marxist-Leninist] of Sweden.

Supreme People's Assembly To Convene 9 Dec

SK2311105193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—A decision of the standing committee of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on convening a session of the SPA was promulgated.

The decision dated November 23 says that the 6th session of the 9th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK will be convened in Pyongyang on December 9, 1993.

Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il Visit Science Academy

SK2211230893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has visited the Science Exhibition Hall of the Academy of Sciences. Comrade Kim Il-song, great leader of our party and people, visited the Science Exhibition Hall of the Academy of Sciences on 21 November.

He was accompanied by Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA].

He was also accompanied by Comrade O Chin-u, first vice chairman of the DPRK National Defense Commission and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the State Administration Council; Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice president; Comrade Choe

Kwang, vice chairman of the DPRK National Defense at Panmunjom and chief of the KPA General Staff; Comrades Kye Ung-tae and Han Song-yong, members of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and secretaries of the party Central Committee; Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and responsible secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial Party Committee as well as chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; Comrade Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Kim Chung-nin, member of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrade Kim Kwang-chin, member of the DPRK National Defense Commission and vice marshal of the KPA; and functionaries of sectors concerned.

Scientists and technicians of the Academy of Sciences have achieved great results in their scientific research to solve urgent scientific and technological problems emerged in the course of developing the national economy, upholding the party policy on chuche-orientation, modernization, and scientification of the national economy.

While visiting the Science Exhibition Hall with the leading cadres of the party and the state, who accompanied him, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song acquainted himself with details of the results of scientific research in the electronics and automation sector and in each of the machinery, metal, biological, science, and light industrial sectors. He expressed his great satisfaction with our scientists and technicians, who have made great contribution to the scientific and technological development of the country and the national economic development by highly displaying their revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude. He thanked all the employees of the Academy of Sciences, who have achieved great success in their scientific research with the spirit of boundless self-sacrifice for the party, the revolution, the fatherland, and the people.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song expressed his firm belief that our scientists and technicians will devote all they have to the implementation of the revolution of the working class and will actively contribute to protecting, defending, and glorifying the popular masses-oriented socialism of our own style by making great scientific and technological results, as they did in the past.

All party members and working people of the Academy of Sciences were filled with the burning resolution to prepare themselves more firmly to be intellectuals, who boundlessly faithful to the party and the revolutionary cause, and to make a new turning point in the scientific researches for the country's scientific and technological development, by completely implementing the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's on-the-spot guidance.

KCNA Reports Academy Tour

SK2311045793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0422 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song saw round a science exhibition of the Academy of Sciences on November 21.

He was accompanied by Comrade Kim Chong-il, chairman of the National Defence Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army.

Also accompanying him were O Chin-u, first vice-chairman of the DPRK National Defence Committee and minister of People's Armed Forces; Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and premier of the Administration Council; Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the C.C., WPK and vice-president; Choe Kwang, vice-chairman of the DPRK National Defence Committee and chief of general staff of the Korean People's Army; Kye Ung-tae and Han Song-yong, Politburo members and secretaries of the C.C., WPK; So Yun-sok, Politburo member of the C.C., WPK, chief secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial Committee of the WPK and chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; Choe Tae-pok, alternate Politburo member and secretary of the C.C., WPK; Kim Chung-nin, member and secretary of the C.C., WPK; vice marshal of the KPA Kim Kwang-chin, member of the DPRK National Defence Committee; and officials concerned.

The scientists and technicians of the Academy of Sciences have registered great successes in their scientific researches to solve scientific and technological problems urgently required for the development of the national economy, upholding the party's policy of realizing the chuche orientation, modernization and scientification of the national economy.

Going round the science exhibition together with the senior party and state officials, President Kim Il-song acquainted himself in detail with the achievements made in scientific researches in electronic, automation, machine-building, metallurgical, biological, chemical, light industrial and other fields and expressed great satisfaction at the great contribution made by our scientists and technicians to the development of the nation's science and technology and the national economy by fully displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle. He extended thanks to all the employees of the Academy of Sciences who had registered tremendous achievements in scientific researches with infinite devotion to the party and the revolution, to the country and the people.

He expressed the belief that our scientists and technicians will, as in the past, so in the future, too, devote their all to the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of the working class and make great scientific and technical achievements so as to positively contribute to defending and glorifying Korean-style socialism centred on the popular masses.

All the party members and other working people of the Academy of Sciences are firmly resolved to implement the on-the-spot teachings of President Kim Il-song to the letter, thus fully preparing themselves as intellectuals unfailingly loyal to the party and the revolutionary cause and effecting a new turn in scientific researches for the development of the nation's science and technology.

Institute Holds Seminar on Kim Il-song's Work

SK2111092393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0828 GMT 21 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 21 (KCNA)—A seminar on the great leader President Kim Il-song's immortal classical work "10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country" was held recently at the Asian Regional Institute of the Chuche Idea.

In his report at the seminar, the secretary general of the institute said: "'10-Point Programme of the Great Unity of the Whole Nation for the Reunification of the Country' published by the great leader President Kim Il-song indicates that the commonness of the nation and its independence are more valuable than the commonness of systems and proposes the building of a confederal state embracing the whole nation on the basis of its homogeneity."

"The programme also clearly indicates the way of strengthening the national and internal forces, the decisive strength for achieving the peaceful reunification of the country and shaping the destiny of the nation and a broad way of uniting the entire Korean nation under the banner of the chuche idea," the reporter stressed.

Those who took the floor expressed full support and solidarity for the Korean people's struggle to reunify the country in the 1990s on the principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.

They expressed their determination to continue to denounce the moves of interference and aggression of the United States and world reactionaries against the Korean people.

Local Assembly Elections Held 'Successfully'

SK2311111793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 23 Nov 93

["People's Government Enjoying Unqualified Support of People Is Invincible"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—Papers here today in editorials hailing the successful holding of the election of deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies stress that the election is of great significance in firmly defending and exalting the Korean-style socialism by further consolidating the people's power as firm as a rock and raising its function and role.

100 percent of the voters who participated in the election held on November 21 voted for the candidates of deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies who were registered at constituencies, excepting those staying in foreign countries or engaged in pelagic fishing.

The election clearly showed the firm faith and will of the entire people to defend to the last with unquestioned support and trust our people's power and the socialist system of chuche which were built by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, and are being glorified by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, NODONG SINMUN says in an editorial, and goes on:

Our people fully demonstrated their unshakable will to share the destiny to the end with their party, government and system under any storm, cherishing the unquestioned truth that the Korean-style socialism is their life and soul. Herein lies the significance of the election and a great pride of our people.

Nothing can break the socio-political foundation of our people's power under which the entire people form an integrated whole, firmly united around the party and the leader in ideology and will and in moral obligations.

The election of deputies to the provincial (municipal) people's assemblies marked an important occasion in further increasing the might of our people's government under the tested guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The invincible might of our people's government today is precisely the might of the great politics and tested guidance of the dear leader. A sure guarantee for our people's government to successfully discharge its mission and role lies in upholding his leadership.

The election which powerfully demonstrated the might of the close singlehearted unity of our people around the great leader and the illustrious leader gave confidence and courage to the peoples struggling for socialism and administered a telling blow at the imperialists and all other enemies who were resorting to despicable moves to destroy the anthropocentric Korean-style socialism and the government of our republic.

Meeting Marks Third Anniversary of Pomminnyon

SK2311114993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1055 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 23 (KCNA)—A meeting was held at the People's Palace of Culture here today to celebrate the third anniversary of the founding of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon).

Pomminnyon was inaugurated on November 20, 1990 through the struggle of Koreans at home and abroad to implement the resolution of the historic first Pannational Rally held on August 15 that year, initiated by reunification movement organisations in South Korea and responded to by those in the North and overseas.

The meeting was attended by Kim Yong-sun, alternate Politburo member and secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea, Yu Mi-yong, chairperson of the C.C., the Chondoist Chongu Party, and officials concerned.

Paek In-chun, chairman of the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon, made a report at the meeting.

The reporter said the founding of Pomminnyon enabled all the pro- reunification patriotic forces in the North, South and overseas too be firmly united under the banner of national reunification and promote the cause of national reunification more dynamically.

Over the past three years, Pomminnyon has closely rallied broad segments of the masses at home and abroad under the banner of reunification and patriotism, he noted, expressing high tribute to the personages related to Pomminnyon in South Korea and all other people at home and abroad for their devoted struggle for the formation of Pomminnyon and its strengthening in the teeth of the challenges and obstructions of the domestic and foreign separatists.

To achieve reunification in the 90s is the unshakable will of our nation and the main task facing the Pomminnyon organisation, the reporter said. He called for decisively smashing the anti-reunification moves of the enemies who are opposed to reunification and achieving the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

Noting that the "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the banner of the great unity of the nation and great charter of Pomminnyon, the reporter referred to the tasks of Pomminnyon to carry it into practice.

In order to accomplish the cause of national reunification with the great unity of the whole nation it is necessary to firmly build up Pomminnyon and intensify its activities, he said. He called for inaugurating the South side headquarters of Pomminnyon at an early date and winning its legalization.

He said that for the present Pomminnyon should wage a struggle to carry through the resolutions adopted at the Fourth Pannational Rally such as to abolish all legal and institutional macvpnes barring the great unity of the nation and reunification, take a joint action of the nation against Japan, implement the inter-Korean agreement and expose the anti-national, anti-reunification criminal acts of the splittists.

Harvest Statistics for Sukchon County Noted

SK2211112393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Pyongyang, November 22 (KCNA)—Thrashing has now entered the final stage on cooperative farms in Sokchon county.

This year the county, visited by a bumper harvest, foresaw an increase of 500-700 kilograms of rice and more than 1 ton of maize per hectare on an average above the peak year, and many farms yielded more grain than the crop estimate.

In particular, the Yoldusamchon cooperative farm produced more than 21,000 tons, or nearly double the figure of last year.

The Sokchon County located in the Yoldusamcholli plain on the west coast of Korea is the cradle of the new agricultural guidance system.

The great leader President Kim Il-song, giving on-the-spot guidance to Sokchon County in December 1961, deducted the function of guidance over the rural economy from the county people's committee and founded the county agricultural, cooperative management committee, the organ specialising in agricultural guidance, in compliance with the requirements of the reality when not only the rural economy grew in scale and its material and technical foundations were consolidated but the agricultural production turned into complicated technical processes.

Thus, Sokchon County became a place of glory, the first to have a new agricultural guidance body directing the rural economy by industrial methods, not in an administrative way.

A well-knit new agricultural guidance system was established in the country from the centre to every county following on-the-spot guidance of President Kim Il-song to Sokchon County; the agricultural cooperative management committee made its appearance in all cities and counties, and the rural economy committees in provinces, and the Ministry of Agriculture was reorganised into the State Agricultural Commission.

This effected an epoch-making change in developing the socialist rural economy.

A rapid progress has been made in the agriculture of Sokchon County advancing along the road indicated by the socialist rural theses.

With the successful promotion of the rural technical revolution the irrigation and electrification were already completed long ago and the comprehensive mechanisation and widespread use of chemicals in agriculture reached a high stage.

The number of tractors and trucks in the county has increased respectively 5.8 and 2.4 times the figure of 1961.

Nearly all farm work including tilling, harvesting and thrashing is done with the help of one thousand and hundreds of farm machines such as rice transplanting and plucking machines.

The cooperative farms in the county with nearly 2,000 agro-engineers and assistant engineers have increased agricultural production annually by doing farming on a scientific and technical basis as demanded by the chuche method of farming.

The county increased production of grain 2.5 times, meat 2 times, eggs 42 times, vegetables 3.8 times, and fruits 7.8 times last year, as compared with the years before the county agricultural cooperative management committee was founded.

It has now turned into a civilized socialist countryside good to live and work in.

Daily Denounces 'Bourgeois Democracy'

SK2111091593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0816 GMT 21 Nov 93

["Bourgeois Democracy, Most Reactionary and Anti-Popular 'Democracy'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, November 21 (KCNA)—Today the imperialists are vociferating about "freedom," "human rights" and "democracy." But the "democracy" advertised by them is no more than a deception, stresses NODONG SINMUN today.

The paper says in a by-lined article titled "Bourgeois Democracy, Most Reactionary and Anti-Popular 'Democracy'":

Bourgeois democracy is democracy for a handful of exploiting classes but enforces the most harsh dictatorship over the broad masses of working people including the working class.

The supreme purpose of bourgeois democracy based on individualism is to protect the life and interests of individuals. So freedom and equality among people are always accompanied by mutual restraint and discord. In capitalist society today the jungle law—"man is a wolf to man"—is encouraged and degeneration, corruption, murder and robbery and other social vices hold sway. This is a product of bourgeois democracy.

In this society, a handful of privileged classes intensify exploitation and plunder of the popular masses in reliance on the state power in their hands and pursue the greedy ambitions for luxury, debauchery and self-indulgency.

The imperialists' blatant advertisement about "superiority" of bourgeois democracy is part of their moves to disorganise the socialist countries from within.

The imperialists crying for "defence of human rights" and intensifying the anti-communist propaganda are as shameless and ridiculous as a thief crying "stop thief".

The imperialists who style themselves "guards of democracy and human rights" are wreckers of democracy and violators of human rights.

Although the imperialists and reactionaries describe the bourgeois parliamentary system and bourgeois multiparty system as "democracy," it is the monopoly capitalists who really manipulate politics behind the scene.

If the nominal parliamentary system and multi-party system stand in the way of maintaining their reactionary rule, the imperialists throw them away overnight and openly enforce a fascist rule.

The anti-popular nature of bourgeois democracy finds clear expression in ideological and cultural life. In capitalist countries today, freedom of speech, the press and information is a privileged right of the capitalist class.

The realities today show bourgeois democracy is falling into a quagmire of history. Those who try to take bourgeois democracy out of the dust bin of history and beautify and spread it will be sternly judged by the people.

South Korea

President's Activities in Washington Reported

Visits Arlington Cemetery, Congress

SK2311003693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0022 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam began the second day of his official U.S. visit by jogging on the campus of Georgetown University early Monday morning. He woke up at 5:15 A.M. and went to the university's football ground, about five minutes from the official guest house. He jogged around the 400-meter track 11 times at a speed of 9 kilometers an hour, considerably faster than his usual pace.

Kim kept the hood of his jersey over his head, probably because he wasn't sweating due to the cold weather. Korean Ambassador to Washington Han Sung-su, his personal physician and aides took part in the jog.

After the run, President Kim visited the Arlington National Cemetery and laid a wreath to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier before paying his respects to the late U.S. President John F. Kennedy, who was assassinated 30 years ago. Kim and his entourage entered the cemetery as a 21-gun salute shook the air at 10:30 A.M. and a military commander in the Washington area explained facts about the cemetery as they proceeded to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. While President Kim stood silent before the tomb as an Army bugler played a requiem. Earlier, a U.S. Army band had played the national anthems of the two countries.

Kim then moved on to President Kennedy's grave and placed a bouquet of flowers in front. Watching "the eternal flame," Kim said, "though President Kennedy has gone, the spirit of democracy will keep burning forever like this flame."

Kim recalled the famous phrase from President Kennedy's inauguration address: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country."

Turning to Katherine Kennedy, daughter of the late Senator Robert Kennedy, Kim said, "I often used this famous phrase in my speeches to our people."

Kennedy, who led Kim and his entourage on the tour, thanked the South Korean president, who also visited her father's grave.

Later, President Kim attended a luncheon given by Speaker Thomas Foley of the U.S. House of Representatives at the Capitol after exchanging views with Foley and other Congressional leaders on ways to develop bilateral relations. The luncheon, which was closed to the public, was attended by House Republican Minority Leader Robert Michael, Sen. Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, Rep. Lee Hamilton, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Rep. Gary Ackerman, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, and Rep. Jay Kim.

President Kim congratulated Speaker Foley for successfully staging the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders' meeting in Washington, which is Foley's constituency.

After thanking Kim, Foley begged Kim's excuse ahead of time as some of those present may have to leave the luncheon early because various votes were scheduled to take place.

Ackerman was late in coming to the luncheon, but President Kim appeared to be happy to meet him. Shaking hands, Kim said in English: "Nice to see you again." Ackerman met Kim in Seoul following his visit to North Korea last summer.

President Kim also toasted Jay Kim, the first Korean-American to be elected to the House of Representatives.

Further on Congress Luncheon

SK2311015293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0056 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam visited the U.S. Congress Monday and exchanged views on the North Korean nuclear issue and South Korea-U.S. relations with Speaker of the House of Representatives Thomas Foley and other Congressional leaders.

At the luncheon hosted by Foley, which was closed to the public, Kim clearly and resolutely explain to the U.S. lawmakers the North Korean nuclear problem and thanked the House of Representatives for adopting a resolution on the issue, according to Chong Jong-uk, senior presidential adviser on national security affairs. Kim expressed his satisfaction that cooperation between South Korea and the United States on security affairs has been strengthened since the inauguration of new administrations in both countries, Chong said.

Specifically, Kim told the Congress that "near perfect coordination" is being maintained between Seoul and Washington with regard to the North Korean nuclear issue, Chong said.

He also told his hosts that Chinese President Jiang Zemin had clarified to him during their summit that resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue was also beneficial to China.

Foley, for his part, noted that U.S. Congressional leaders are unanimous in pointing out that a complete solution to the North Korean nuclear question is needed for peace and security not only on the Korean peninsula but also in Northeast Asia.

Foley pledged that the U.S. Congress will do its best to provide support for resolution of the nuclear issue.

Speaks at American University

SK2311013293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0052 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam, recalling that John F. Kennedy had envisioned detente with the Soviet Union at the height of the Cold War, said on Monday that the rivalry between South and North Korea is almost at an end.

Pyongyang's suspected development of nuclear weapons remains a threat to the region and to the world, and the matter has to be resolved by North Korea, Kim said, adding that he was committed to a policy of participation and cooperation with North Korea.

The South Korean leader, in Washington for summit talks with U.S. President Bill Clinton on Tuesday, spoke at the American University, where he received an honorary doctorate.

Kim is the first foreign head of state to receive an honorary degree from the university, which commemorates its centennial this year.

"Today happens to be the 30th anniversary of the death of President Kennedy," Kim said in his speech, titled "Toward an Asia-Pacific Age of Peace and Prosperity."

"Even while the Cold War was raging, President Kennedy alone foresaw the possibility of detente with the Soviet Union. He thus proposed a grand vision that would eventually turn the tide of the times," he said.

"Just as the rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union came to an early end, the rivalry between the South and the North has virtually ended."

North Korea's suspected development of nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction pose threat to peace and the safety of the entire world, he added.

"I urge them (North Korea) to immediately accept all nuclear inspections by the International Atomic energy agency (IAEA) and also come to the table of dialogue with the South in good faith to resolve the nuclear issue," Kim said.

Kim, reiterating his will to avoid any policy designed to isolate the North from the world, said, "when and if North Korea openly responds to our call, intra-Korean relations will rapidly improve."

Kim flew into Washington after attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Seattle last week, where he said that both Clinton and himself proposed building an economic community linking east Asia with North America.

"I believe that the APEC will be the most effective tool for shaping the Asia-Pacific age in the best possible fashion," he said, predicting that the military alliance developed between the two countries over the past 40 years "will serve as a potent catalyst for forging the Asia-Pacific age."

Accepts Harriman Democracy Award

SK2311022193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0210 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Washington, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam, pledging his country's efforts to bring democracy to its communist neighbor, called on North Korea Monday to join the coming new age of democracy.

"World history is now unfolding in a direction favorable to national reconciliation and unification in Korea," Kim said. "Our people and I are striving ever harder to achieve those goals. We truly desire to reconcile and cooperate with North Korea in order to promote common prosperity. We wish to share democratic values with them."

The South Korean head of state, accepting the Averell Harriman Democracy Award from the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), drew a picture of a united Korea that can "play a pivotal role in the Asia-Pacific age."

"We must keep in mind, however, that a new world and the Asia-Pacific age that we are trying to build together must be founded on democratic values—values that must be spread and shared by all peoples," Kim said.

North Korea's suspected nuclear development is holding back the new current of history on the Korean peninsula, and it must promptly dispel all doubts in the interests of peace in Northeast Asia and in the world, he said.

"The Korean people and I will persevere in the endeavors to thaw the frozen land that is North Korea and to bring democracy to flower there," he said. "I ardently hope that you will continue to support our efforts to realize our hope and dream and pray for our success."

Kim-Clinton 24 Nov Talks Previewed

SK2311042293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0407 GMT 23 Nov 93

[By Chang Yong-sop]

[Text] Washington, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—South Korean President Kim Yong-sam and U.S. President Bill Clinton will attempt to paper over a subtle difference between the South Korean and U.S. approaches to the North Korean nuclear issue in their summit on Wednesday. While meeting leaders of Asian and Pacific nations in Seattle, Clinton said the U.S. Government is studying a comprehensive deal as one of the alternatives for solution of the North Korean nuclear issue.

On Monday in Washington, he said the administration is studying a new approach to the issue.

What he meant by a new approach is not known, but THE NEW YORK TIMES and other U.S. newspapers say the comprehensive deal calls, firstly, for North Korea's acceptance of routine international inspections of its nuclear facilities in return for an announcement halting the annual South Korea-U.S. military exercise "Team Spirit," and secondly, for North Korea's acceptance of special international inspections in return for U.S. economic aid that may lead to normalized relations between Pyongyang and Washington.

It may be said Washington has set its position on the North Korean nuclear issue: A solution through dialogue, instead of through sanctions.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher has said that the U.S. Government will strive to solve the issue through cooperation with the international community and dialogue with North Korea.

Seoul has no objection to solution of the North Korean nuclear issue through dialogue, but there seems to be a subtle difference in views on the comprehensive deal between Seoul and Washington.

Seoul's position is reportedly that Washington should hold a third round of high-level talks with Pyongyang only if it accepts routine international inspections of its nuclear facilities and agrees with Seoul on an exchange of special envoys.

In fact, Seoul is not studying, at least at the present moment, North Korea's package deal proposal for solving its nuclear issue in exchange for the halt of the

Team Spirit military exercise, U.S. assistance in North Korea's installation of light water reactors and U.S. diplomatic recognition of North Korea. Seoul's position is that it will study the proposal only when North Korea accepts routine international inspections and resumes inter-Korean dialogue.

This package deal proposal of North Korea's looks slightly different from the comprehensive deal that the U.S. Government is reportedly studying.

Seoul is displeased at North Korea's attempt to solve the nuclear and other pending issues in a package through bilateral talks with the United States. Its position is that the nuclear issue cannot be solved through talks between Washington and Pyongyang and without its consent, because it is an issue having a bearing on the entire Korean peninsula.

At any rate, the positions of Seoul and Washington on the North Korean nuclear issue and their approaches to solve it will be made clear during Wednesday's summit between Presidents Kim and Clinton.

U.S. Report on ROK Losing Ground War Refuted

SK2311070293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0626 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Defense Ministry does not accept the conclusion of a secret U.S. Defense Department report that North Korea could quickly win a ground war against South Korea.

"We have conducted a war game too, after inputting various data into a computer, and the results were optimistic. The results can be different if the data put into the computers are different," a ministry official said Tuesday.

NEWSWEEK magazine's latest issue quotes classified Pentagon intelligence reports as saying that North Korea could win a ground war against South Korea and have its troops in Seoul in one or two weeks, and it says that a recent computer simulation confirmed the bleak prediction.

"To win a war, we need the people's firm will to win, commanders with ability and soldiers with determination more than superiority in arms and weapons," an official at the Joint Chiefs of Staff said. "The results of a war game are not always true."

The ministry official said, "The results are possible because North Korea's combat capabilities are better than ours. We shall assume a stronger defense posture than before because of the results."

South Korea and the United States agreed at the 25th Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) early this month to study military complementary measures, including modernization of the combat capabilities of the South Korean and U.S Forces, in preparation for provocative military action by North Korea.

Former N-S Negotiator on 'Fabrication' Case

SK2211121493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1119 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—Former Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, previously South Korea's chief negotiator at the inter-Korean high-level talks, refused on Monday to discuss the alleged fabrication of presidential instructions by Yi Tong-pok, one of his delegation members, during a South-North meeting.

"I am not in a position to discuss it at this time," Chong who now heads the Sejong Foundation said.

Yi Tong-pok, a special assistant to the director of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP), is accused of altering vital instructions from the president and thus leading to the breakup of talks on the proposed exchange of groups of dispersed family hometown visitors.

"Now that the government inspection authorities intend to look into the case, I expect things would be laid bare in the course of the investigation," Chong said. "But, for me, who was then the chief delegate, to discuss the case now would have an adverse impact on future dialogue."

He said talks on the exchange of hometown visitors groups were not terminated at the eighth high-level meeting in Pyongyang during which the alleged fabrication was made, but continued to be made at working-level talks later on Oct. 5-6.

Chong thus implied that the alleged fabrication was not the sole reason for the breakup of the talks.

Country To Exclude Rice From Market Opening

SK2311080893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0741 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—The government plans to exclude rice and three other basic agricultural products from a list of farm goods for market opening, a senior official at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said Tuesday.

Of the 15 basic farm products, the government will open the market for 11 items, excluding rice and the three others, through tariffication, and notify its decison to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) this week, the official said, requesting anonymity. He said that the government has already told GATT in April 1992 that it would exclude rice and two or three more farm products from the subjects of tariffication.

The notification to GATT is being made by way of stressing the Seoul Government's position that it could not open the market for rice and the three other items under any circumstances.

Seoul wants to emphasize the point as the Dec. 15 deadline for conclusion of the Uruguay Round of global trade negotiations approaches, he said.

The government will also decide on the 11 items that will be open to imports through tariffication next week and submit its decision to GATT in December, he said.

Among the basic farm products that are being considered as items to be excluded from a list of tariffication are beef, barley, red pepper, garlic, onion, milk and dairy products. Of these, the government is likely to pick beef, barley and red pepper, he said.

Unlike rice, however, imports of these basic products may be allowed to make "a minimum approach" to the domestic market although they would be excluded from tariffication, the official said.

Companies in 'Fight' Over French Train Contract

SK2011013293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0552 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 19 (YONHAP)—Heavy industry companies embroiled in a fight over subcontracts for South Korea's multibillion-dollar high-speed railway project seem to have been counting chickens that may never hatch.

Hyundai Precision and Industry announced on Wednesday that it had been chosen the "leading manufacturer" for the project by GEC Alsthom, the Anglo-French consortium that makes the TGV (Train a Grande Vitesse) [high-speed train].

Asked to confirm its choice of Hyundai, the priority bidder to supply the trains said, "no final decision has been made."

"How could they?" chimed an irritated official at the Korea High-Speed Railway construction authority (KHSR). "We are still negotiating terms with the French maker."

Daewoo Heavy Industries pounced on the announcement and is threatening to take the French company to court, flashing documents that clearly name it main subcontractor for technology transfer.

"What a mess," the KHSR official said.

After a down-to-the-wire fight with a German consortium, GEC Alsthom was chosen virtual winner of the 13.2 billion-U.S.-dollar contract in August, but must endure another round of serious negotiations with the Korean authorities now that it is tagged the "priority negotiating company."

As soon as the priority negotiator was selected, the heavy hitters, Hyundai, Daewoo and Hanjin Heavy Industries, hastened along with sugary attempts to acquire some of the expensive TGV technology. But a deal has yet to be signed, and Seoul is prolonging the negotiations to get as many technology concessions as possible from the French manufacturer.

At least 50 percent of the 46 trainsets must be localized for the full Seoul-Pusan track, which is to open in 2001. Michel Moreau, managing director of TGV main lines group, is said to have planned to announce the company's choice of Hyundai as leading manufacturer on Wednesday, but was called into the KHSR head office to be advised that such move was "not smart."

The Korean railway authority is said to have reminded Moreau that the French company has not been awarded the contract yet and that it was unwise to name the leading manufacturer at this point.

After it is selected, then GEC Alsthom can start negotiating with local manufacturers, KHSR is quoted as telling Moreau, adding that the Korean authority is in the position to approve the French maker's choice of leading subcontractor.

It is no secret that special relations between GEC Alsthom and Daewoo date back 10 years, to when the two joined up for line 3 and line 4 of the Seoul subway and rolling stock.

This was why Daewoo is so hurt and feels betrayed by GEC Alsthom's apparent preference for Hyundai.

"Daewoo and Alsthom have a contract on transfer of high-speed railway technology, and Alsthom named Daewoo leading manufacturer in its bidding offer to KHSR," Daewoo President Sok Chin-chol said Thursday.

"I cannot understand how Alsthom can ignore such pact and select Hyundai. We will take all necessary legal actions if Hyundai is named its final choice," Sok warned.

Hyundai supplied documents to show it was chosen as most able manufacturer to lead the Korean consortium by Alsthom, which had spent two weeks studying the company's financial structure and potential.

It has been decided that Hyundai, Daewoo and Hanjin will share in building the 2.3 billion dollars of rolling stock in a 40:40:20 ratio, and it would be illogical for one company to have access to the technology at the expense of the other two.

The Korean manufacturers have got red faces from GEC Alsthom's move because the French company has made it clear that it cannot negotiate separately with three bidders and will choose a single Korean representative to accept the technology and authorize the manufacturing of the bullet trains. Therefore, the leading company gets the first look at the technology and has an advantage in future high-speed railway projects such as the Honam track.

The more heated becomes the argument between Hyundai and Daewoo over who takes the leadership, the merrier the French company will be as it is likely to be pushed into a more advantageous position on price and technology negotations.

Industry observers blame the Korean railway authorities to some extent for the embarassing feud over the mammoth project. Before selecting bidders, the government should have chosen the chief Korean subcontractor, an expert claims, then the Korean manufacturers would be in a better position to set the conditions.

"We have been dragging the negotiations out to garner maximum advantage, but if the fighting goes on our efforts may prove to be useless," the KHSR official said.

Agreement Signed With Poland on Visa Rules

SK2311055693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0502 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Poland sign an agreement in Warsaw on Wednesday waiving visa requirements for visitors from each other's country, the Foreign Ministry announced Tuesday.

The agreement will take effect one month later, on Dec. 24, and allow visitors up to 90 days without visas. Visitors are barred from taking employment or any form of wage-earning activities.

Seoul and Warsaw normalized relations in November 1989 and South Korea has visa waiver agreements with 59 countries.

Papers Comment on Results of APEC Summit

SK2211065093

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of editorials from ROK vernacular newspapers on the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, which ended on 20 November in Seattle.

The moderate CHOSON ILBO in Korean on 22 November carries an 800-word article on page 3 titled "After the APEC Summit Meeting." The editorial says that although the meeting appeared to have been held in a liberal and friendly environment, much more pain and efforts are still needed to bring the broad Asia-Pacific area into one economic community due to the historical, cultural, and economic diversity among member states. The editorial notes that "APEC is bound to an open regionalism because it has to incorporate with the North American Free Trade Agreement and ASEAN."

Citing the separate summits during APEC, the editorial appraises APEC's contribution in forming an environment of security for Korea, including the resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue. The editorial concludes by urging all people, including politicians, to advance toward internationalization so as to play a leading role in APEC.

The moderate TONG-A ILBO in Korean on 22 November carries an 800-word editorial titled "Results of the APEC Summit Meeting."

The editorial surmises that the "ROK's position has been elevated by being elected as chair state of the newly formed Trade and Investment Committee [TIC], thus becomes in charge of coordination between the United States and the Southeast Asia countries, and between advanced and developing countries."

Noting that the separate summits between the United States, Japan, and the PRC, cemented the international coordination system toward a peaceful resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue, the editorial says that the concern of Asia-Pacific countries over the North Korean nuclear issue puts pressure on North Korea to change its attitude. The editorial also notes that in order to develop APEC's role, the United States should not dominate the organization or demand too much opening from Asia-Pacific countries.

The moderate HANGUK ILBO in Korean on 22 November carries an 800-word editorial titled "Our Tasks After APEC."

The editorial highlights the ROK's election as chair state of the TIC, and the approval of the ROK's proposals to establish a technological market and vocational training plan as major gains of the APEC summit. The editorial also notes the meeting's "unseen" fruition, which "enabled President Kim's civilian government team to have first-hand experience on dealing with international affairs."

The moderate KYONGYANG SINMUN in Korean on 22 November carries an 800-word editorial titled "The ROK's Role After APEC."

Noting President Kim Yong-sam's proposal of "competition with cooperation," the editorial defines our tasks after APEC as "bold internationalization and openness, and enabling North Korea to participate in the international economic stage after the nuclear issue is resolved." In order to accomplish the tasks, the editorial urges a firm and practical policy on agricultural products; service industry, including the financial market and intellectual property rights; and other industrial products, in preparation for the economic world war.

EC Imposes Anti-Dumping Tariff on Batteries

SK2211095293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0737 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—The European Community recently slapped a 70.6-percent punitive tariff on South Korean batteries as a result of a dumping investigation, the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA) said Monday. KOTRA, citing a report from its Brussel's office, said that the high tariff was imposed because battery exporters in Korea and Taiwan refused to cooperate with the investigation. Taiwanese batteries were penalized with an anti-dumping tariff of 93.7 percent. The European Commission will make an announcement on the ruling Wednesday, after consultations with the EC Anti-Dumping Advisory Committee, KOTRA said.

UN's FAO Elects ROK to Third Council Term

SK2311055093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0350 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—South Korea was elected to a third consecutive term on the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Council Tuesday, the Foreign Ministry said. The FAO Council is divided into seven regional subgroups, and Korea was elected to the nine-nation group for the Asian region with China, Japan, Indonesia, Thailand and Bangladesh. The term is from January 1995 to November 1997. Korea joined the U.N. organization in 1949 and served on the council for the 1987 and 1991 terms.

* No Tae-u's Secret Emissary to PRC Interviewed

932C0238A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 16 Sep 93 pp 14-17

[Text] With the recent passing of the first anniversary of the establishment of Korean-Chinese diplomatic relations, it has become known that at the beginning of exchanges, Korea's secret emissary, who opened up the flood gates to get the talks progressing, was a doctor of Chinese medicine, a Chinese resident of Korea. He now resides in Seoul's Kang Nam Gu, Shin Sa Dong, at the Chinese Medical Center in Shin Dong Hwa. Director of the Shin Dong Hwa Chinese Medical Center, Han Sung-ho (66), recently met with reporters to discuss the details of his role as secret emissary to China, and the intricacies of the activities that went on behind the scenes.

Han came into the lime-light last 19 February when he received a medal from the government for "Contributions toward the betterment of national well-being," he received the Dong Baek Jang citizen's medal. Also, Han became the center of attention recently as a guest on SBS TV's "The Ju Byong Jin Show" where he discussed the basics of unique Chinese herb medicinal remedies, and diet treatments.

The reason Director Han was chosen from the beginning to act as a secret emissary in the Korean-Chinese dialogues, was because of his friendship with former President Roh Tae-woo. The two had been friends since the time when President Roh was a colonel, almost twenty years ago. In '74, Roh returned from Vietnam and was the commander of a brigade of special forces troops, his wife, Kim Oak-suk, for treatment of an illness, had been introduced to Director Kim and they had become friends. After that, whenever the former president's family became ill, they would call upon Kim, and privately they maintained a close friendship as well. During the 6th Republic, Han became President Roh's personal physician and freely visited the Blue House.

According to Han, he was summoned to the Blue House 1 March 1988, just five days after the president's inauguration, and given the task by President Roh, of the Korean-Chinese negotiations.

"The president called and said he wanted to get our families together for lunch. Later I found out that I was the first civilian to be invited to the Blue House. Including meal time, for about three hours the president explained his plans for northern policy, and then he said "Dr. Han, please help me." it was at that time when he asked me to be his secret emissary to China."

Former President Roh went on to say: "All routes for dialogue with China are non-existent, and I have no one suitable to serve as secret emissary other than you, Dr. Han, a chinaman." He also said; "Please relay to the Chinese, Korea's desire for exchange."

At first Han refused the President's request. Years before, he had fled to Taiwan to escape the Communists, making it difficult for him to even consider going there on an official mission. However, after much convincing from President Roh, he gave in to the request.

After agreeing to the president's request, Han asked him; "How do I prove to the Chinese that I am the Korean government's secret emissary?" At the time the situation in the Blue House was such that, even documents the president signed, had to be carried to Yon Hwai Dong and shown to former president Chon Doo-won, showing that the 5th Republic administration was still running things. As a result, the president while trying to run his northern policy on his own, would run into quite a few problems as far as security was concerned, if he made official documents for his secret emissary. After much thought the president said "We'll take your photo with me and my family, and you will carry that as your proof."

The president then took Han into the main room of the Blue House and took several photos with the family. After the photo session, the president said to Han, "From now on you must maintain close contact with Park Chul-on and General Kim Bok-dong, about your mission concerning negotiations with the Chinese.

Director Han left for China on 12 April. Using a Taiwanese passport, he obtained a visa in Hong Kong, and flew to the walled city of Chai-nam, in Shandong province. Before leaving, though, he worried quite a bit about the abuse and criticism he would receive from the Taiwan government and from fellow Chinese immigrants in Korea, and as a result lost much sleep. Of course, due to security reasons, even to his own family all he would say was; "I am going on a trip."

The reason that Han chose Shandong Province for his destination was that many of his relatives lived there. However, while staying in a hotel in Chai-nam, he tried to mobilize his relatives to arrange a meeting with the governor, but was unable to do so. After several days with no results, Han wrote a letter to the governor, the gist of which was: "I am a special envoy sent by the Korean Government. Korea wishes to establish relations with China. Through economic exchange with Korea, China also would reap many benefits. If you do not reply within three days I will leave."

Shortly after sending the letter, Lee Yu of the governor's secretary office of Shandong Province came and met Han at his hotel. He said: "Please wait a few days, as we must have permission from Beijing," and "if North Korea finds out there will be trouble, so make sure there are no rumors."

Several days later, Han was able to meet with Kang Choon-un, the Governor of Shandong Province. It was at this time that Han requested that a Korean economic inspection team be allowed to visit Shandong Province. The governor agreed with one provision, that no politicians lead the group. First of all, Han, as a token, to guarantee the visit of the inspection team, requested an invitation from the Chinese government, be issued to persons of influence within the Korean government. The three individuals that Han requested be given invitations were Kim Bok-dong, Park Chul-on, and Moon He-gak. Han said "At the time, those were the only three names of influential government people I could remember."

Han returned to Korea on 26 May. The first thing he did after getting back, was to write a report concerning his Chinese visit to President Roh. Afterwards, the government, primarily through the efforts of the National Security Agency, went to work putting together a Chinese economic inspection team. The members of that team included representatives from 13 major corporations. Chosen to lead the team was Director Kim Woo-jung of the Dae Woo Group, and his assistant was Company President Ho Gee-uk of Hyo-sung Products. Han recalls at the time, "the directors of all the major corporations were involved, with the exception of Hyundai, which was strange." Han and Kim Bok-dong became part of the team as advisors.

On 15 June 1988, the Economic Inspection Team left for China. The team toured Shandong Province, Yo Ryong Sung, and finally visited Beijing. In Beijing, the inspection team met with Wong Jin, deputy chairman of the Communist Party and other high level party officials. According to Han, the Chinese treated General Kim Bok-dong, with all the courtesy reserved for a prime minister, and the team was given the utmost hospitality. "Before going to China, Han Sung-ho met with Kim Bok-dong several times and taught him about China, he concentrated on Chinese stories, Mao Tse-tung's favorite poems, special products of China, and popular Chinese folklore. Later at Chinese banquets, when General Kim eloquently quoted Chinese poetry and fables, the Chinese were amazed. It seemed very effective at bringing down barriers."

Resulting from the inspection team's Chinese visit, was the establishment of a trading company named "The Dong Sung Company" and regularly scheduled air service between In Chon and Chon Jin. The Dong Sung Company was to be established with the investment of $1 million each from Korea, China, and Hong Kong. Its original purpose was to serve as a window for Korean-Chinese trade, but the idea was abandoned in the planning stages. The Chinese at one time had even requested that Kim Bok-dong serve as the president of the company.

For a while after this, Han continued to play a part in promoting the Korean-Chinese negotiations. That's because the Chinese requested Han serve as an intermediator in the talks. They especially requested that Han be the Korean representative in Shandong Province, but Han declined. In the early days, whenever China would send Korea a message, they would fax it to Han's hospital, therefore, government officials were always visiting there. Also, whenever Chinese officials would secretly visit Korea, it was Han's job to entertain them. People who know Han say, that a lot of the expense of entertaining these guests came out of Han's own pocket. They also say that Han played a big part in getting the Chinese to participate in the '88 World Handicap Olympics, held in Seoul.

Han Sung-ho was born in Jilin Provence, Chang Baek Hyon, China and in 1945 graduated from Jilin Province National College of Education. Not long after graduating from college, the Communist Chinese Army advanced northward to his hometown. For being the only college graduate in Chang Baek Hyon, he was charged with the crime of plotting insurrection against the government and sentenced to death. But, thanks to the help of a friend, he was able to escape to Taiwan, and enrolled in the Republic of China's Revolutionary Practice Research Center. This organization had been established on the mainland by President Chiang Kai-shek, and previously had been called "Nam Wee Sa," this school specialized in training intelligence operatives for the Nationalist Party. It was here that Han learned about Chinese herbal medicine. At that time, students had to choose one of 300 specialties to master, and Han chose medicine. In 1953 he took the national licensing exam and obtained his credentials as practitioner of Chinese folk medicine.

Han came to Korea in 1951, at the height of the Korean War,as one of 240 intelligence operatives secretly sent to support Korea. At the time, Han's official title was: "Organization training chief of the United States Department of the Interior, Investigation Bureau, North East. In Korea, his cover was special representative of the Dae Doe Communications Company. His mission against the Chinese was psychological counter-intelligence. During the war, Han was able to persuade 14,000 chinese prisoners of war to defect to free China and for that he was awarded a citation in 1958, from President Chiang Kai-shek.

But after the war, Han decided to remain in Korea. "I was disillusioned by the corruption of the ruling Nationalist Party and the weather and living conditions in Korea were pleasant." In 1958, at the request of the Chinese Embassy, Han was appointed to be the head of the Chinese Immigrant's School, and after about a year and a half, he started a hospital of folk medicine. In 1968, he took the money he had saved and started the newspaper he had always wanted, the "Chinese Immigrant's Daily". However, after writing an editorial criticizing the ruling Nationalist Party, due to the efforts of the Chinese Embassy, his paper was taken away and given to someone else.

Han has many Korean friends. Of course, the majority of the relationships he has are that of doctor and patient, but many are personal friendships. Among those now deceased are Ho Jung, former cabinet head, and Cha Gee-chul, Chief of Security, who were both regular patients of his. Cha Gee-chul had an chronic allergy that made him unable to take western medication, he would only take medicine that Han prepared. Han especially remembers Chang June-ha, who he treated at home just a few months before Chang passed away. At the time Chang was under house arrest, and Han treated him at the request of Sun Woo-yon, a reporter for the Cho Sun Daily.

During the 6th Republic, starting with President Roh Tae-woo, Han had many patients of the ruling party. He first met President Kim Yong-sam, and Democratic Representative Lee Key-taek in 1988 and since then has maintained friendly relationships with them. He has many memories of his long friendship with former President Roh. "When President Roh was commander of the special forces brigade, he once asked me to make him teaching materials for special forces soldiers to use in emergency situations. So I made a pocket reference for emergency Chinese herbal medicinal remedies."

Han used that book for five and a half years to teach Army doctors of the 1st and 9th Special Forces Groups, Chinese herbal emergency medical treatments. These lectures met with great success and it wasn't long thereafter that "Military Employment of Chinese Herbal Medicine" was written with great effort on the part of Han. But Han's patients are not all high level celebrities, they also include members of the opposition such as Baek Key-chang, as well as student activists. During the 5th Republic, Baek Key-chang, suffering the effects of torture, was brought back to health by Han. Average people like the neighborhood paper boy, the mechanic, and the surrounding people, often go to see Han. "You can't put a price on writing, art or medicine." This favorite saying of his, is the reason why when people are going through tough times Han provides them free treatment without hesitation. Approximately one third of the 300 patients that visit his hospital in a month, are free patients.

These days, Han is not on speaking terms with his fellow Chinese immigrants, or the Taiwan government. They call him a traitor for helping the Koreans establish relations with the Communist Chinese. Among the Chinese immigrants, he's known insultingly as "the Peking man." He says; "Of course countrymen are important but, at the same time, one can't forget obligations to friends." Last February Han was invited to the inauguration of Kim Yong-sam, but he went instead to Yon Hwai Dong, to visit the home of President Roh, where other citizens had also gone to pay their respects. Overcome by his Chinese friend's loyalty, the former president fought back the tears as he expressed his gratitude.

While serving Korea as an intermediator during the Korea-China negotiations, it was not without misgivings and remembering bitter experiences from the painful past of his homeland. "While visiting China, at a banquet held in Peking, among the celebrities was one face that was familiar. After careful examination, I recognized him as the man who had sentenced me to death, Baek Gay-bue, formerly mayor of Chang Baek Hyun. That really knocked the breath out of me. Now he's the governor of Peking sector one. At the end of the banquet, I walked up to him and said; "Do you recognize me?" He was baffled, but after I explained the past to him he turned quite pale. After a while though we embraced each other and wept."

When asked: "Wouldn't you like to return to your homeland?" Han says that he intends to be buried in Korea. His wife is Korean and he has five children. His second oldest son manages a Chinese folk medicine shop just a block away from his father's hospital.

* Concern Over Japan Philanthropist's Intent

942C0007A Seoul SISA JOURNAL in Korean 16 Sep 93 pp 24-27

[By reporter Nam Mun-hui and O Min-su]

[Text] Taking advantage of the international mood sweeping over the whole of northern Asia, the funds of a Japanese conservative, right-wing foundation are being accepted indiscriminately into Korean academic circles. Given under the guise of scholastic research funds or financing for international conferences, the main objects of this foundation's funds are scholars of the humanities and social sciences studying Northeast Asian relations or area problems. It became known that while supplying scholarships for students in master's and doctoral degree programs at one Korean university, the foundation was maintaining a list of scholarship-recipients as foundation connections, causing concern over whether this is not an organized infiltration by Japanese right-wing forces.

The foundation in question is the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, operated by an organization called the Japanese Shipping Promotion Association. Because of the past record of its founder Sasakawa Ryoichi, this foundation is the object of concerned vigilance, not only in Japan, but internationally as well. Sasakawa Ryoichi, 94 this year, created an extreme rightist political organization called the "Nationalist Populist Party" in Japan during World War II and devoted himself to right-wing activities. His activities included flying in his own light plane to meet with Italy's Mussolini for talks. He has called himself a fascist. He even lived in confinement as a Class-A war criminal after the war because of this record.

Even Japanese scholars avoid accepting funding from the foundation Sasakawa leads. This is not merely because of his political tendencies, but because the organization of which he is president, the Japanese Shipping Promotion Association [JSPA], is operated with earnings made by gambling on motorboat races held in Japan.

Beginning in the early 1980s, the JSPA has been setting up various funds and several foundations worldwide and handing out money under the guise of explaining Sasakawa's negative image. There have already been instances internationally of several universities refusing to accept scholarships because his past record had become a problem. Also, the White House says that at one time, it was suspicious of this foundation's behavior, giving out money to American scholars, and had the American embassy in Japan do a background investigation.

The true character of this foundation not being well known in Korea, it is reported that some scholars and universities are uncritically accepting money as nominal research subsidies and scholarships. As a result of an investigation by *Sisa Journal*, at present, the foundation is known to have supplied $1 million in scholarships for students in master's and doctoral degree programs at Koryo University's graduate school of the humanities and social sciences in 1987, to have given research subsidies and conference-operation support to the "Northeast Asia Forum," a research group made up of Korean and foreign scholars which has been holding the "International Conference on the Tumen River Development" in Changchun, Pyongyang and Vladivostok since 1989, and to have supported the recent series of scholarly meetings studying the development of the Sea of Japan basin, centered on the city of Pohang. Scholars connected with this, however, estimate that because foundation representatives have been contacting individual scholars and scholars from various universities and research institutes for three years, there may be a considerable amount of support given which is not apparent on the surface. "I'm aware of over ten research institutes, including national universities, receiving funding support," said one connected source.

The scholarships provided to Koryo University are part of the foundation's five-year plan, which began in 1987, to pay $1 million in scholarships to each of over 50 universities worldwide. The recipients of this scholarship, called the "Sasakawa Leader [as published] Scholarship," are the master's and doctoral degree candidates from each university. America's Yale, Princeton, and Berkeley, China's Beijing University, Russia's Moscow University, etc., the world's leading universities are included in this.

The question is what is this foundation's motivation for giving out tremendous sums of money to the world's universities. The son of Sasakawa Ryoichi and current president of the foundation, Sasakawa Yohei (53) said the following in a December 1990 interview with Japan's *Getsukan Asahi*:

"What is important is approaching the youth aiming for the next generation. We enter all the scholarship students in a database. About 1,000 graduates come out of 50 universities every year; that is 10,000 persons in ten years. If 30 percent of these become specialists or power elite [as published], that's a considerable network. Just by pushing a button, we can know in an instant what connections we have to go through."

One source claiming to have actually received a Sasakawa scholarship while studying at Koryo University's graduate school says that, even after graduating, letters or cards from the foundation are delivered to his house several times each year. He even received a collection of poems written by the Emperor Akihito and his Empress. Of this he said, "I felt horrified."

Provided with scholarships for the theses-publication expenses of over 90 students in humanities and social science master's and doctoral degree programs every year since 1987, Koryo University representatives say that aside from requesting a list of students receiving the scholarship and their addresses once a year, the foundation attaches no other condition on them. They are totally unaware of its intentions. "I didn't know that there were this many problems with the foundation. If it's true, then this is no small problem," said one source in the graduate school education department, unable to hide his embarrassment.

At several universities, such as America's University of California at Berkeley and Canada's Yota [as published] University, this foundation's past became known, sparking protests to the school administrations by area media, faculty and students.

If this foundation's approach through the medium of scholarships is generally intended to "make connections for the next generation," then its persistent approach toward scholars studying Northeast Asian relations, Chinese, Soviet [as published] and North Korean problems in general, is characterized by its connection with Japan's national objectives, some point out. According to the opinion of scholars critical of Japan's present national objectives for the 21st century, "Concerning the formation of the European Community and the North American Free Trade Agreement, Japan is setting up a strategy of integrating the whole Asian-Pacific region into an economic bloc led by it. Southeast Asia is already integrated into a Japanese market based in Bangkok. Japan's strategy is to unite Northeast Asia into a Northeast Asian economic bloc. Korea is a stumbling block to this, however, so pulling in Korea is of the utmost concern." Traditionally, Japanese right-wing organizations have shown a tendency to be one step ahead of the Japanese government.

The fact that the movements of the Sasakawa Foundation keep pace with Japan's conservative politicians can be surmised from the guiding of the foundation's "international strategy." Sasakawa Yohei plays golf with former prime ministers Nakasone and Takeshita and others of Japan's conservative politicians, and maintains such close relationships with them that scenes of them discussing Japan's key political issues at Yohei's villa have been witnessed by the Japanese media (*Asahi Shinbun* 1 Aug 90 Issue). Yohei himself stated in an interview with *Getsukan Asahi*, "I traveled around from place to place for ten years to make international connections. No matter what the organization or country, I believe that it is people who move it." "I have no stake in politics, but...I do intend to accurately communicate the information I obtained while traveling around the world to competent politicians for reference in their policy-making decisions."

It may only be a coincidence, but the time Sasakawa Foundation officials began to be seen in the international academic community was 1989, right after Sasakawa Yohei was appointed president of the foundation and began implementing his internationalization strategy full-scale. The first person picked out for contact was industrial researcher Mr. X. He said, "Three or four foundation officials came to see me. Before coming to Korea, they had already contacted Korean students studying in Japan three or four times, not only learning of the present state of Korean research centers studying Northeast Asian relations, but also obtaining a list of over 40 persons majoring in the field. They brought the list with them and asked me to introduce them to these people." He believes the reason they generally wanted to contact scholars working on Northeast Asian problems was that they intended to gather intelligence on the then current issue of the establishment of Korean-Chinese diplomatic relations.

Afterwards, rumors circulated within the academic community that foundation officials were continually trying to contact Korean research center and academic figures. It is reported that, generally, after sending letters and foundation pamphlets from Japan three or four times, they formed teams of three to four persons and contacted scholars, proposing research support, joint projects, etc.

The news that the Sasakawa Foundation is deeply involved in international conferences relating to the Tumen River Development Project was first conveyed by Professor X of X college. He says he obtained information from a Chinese scholar he is normally close to that the Sasakawa Foundation provides funding for an organization called the "Northeast Asia Forum," which has held international conferences on several occasions in Changchun, Pyongyang and Vladivostok beginning in 1989. *Sisa Journal* uncovered the fact that the Sasakawa Foundation is deeply involved in the Tumen River Development Project as a result of investigation into Sasakawa Foundation officials and Professor Ch of the Hawaii East-West Center. "It is true that I received funding support from the Sasakawa Foundation, but, at present, the relationship has been broken off," said Professor Ch in a telephone interview. According to him, in the first meeting, held by the Hawaii East-West Center, he received contributions from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and other places. It was then that the Sasakawa Foundation's money came in as part of the contributions. It amounted to about $80,000 (about 70 million won [W]): $30,000 in conference-operation expenses and $50,000 in research subsidies. Afterwards, he said, they also gave him money at the 1990 Changchun conference; at the Vladivostok conference, they gave him funding separate from that for the Hawaii East-West Center. About his reason for ending the relationship, he said, "It's because the foundation's financial management is too strict, there's no flexibility."

In an interview with *Sisa Journal's* investigative team, foundation officials said their support of the Tumen River Development Conference was being promoted as part of the foundation's "Northeast Asia Project." In a fleeting glimpse of the project plan provided by foundation officials, it was written that about 120 scholars from China, the United States, Russia and Korea participated in the 1991 international conference opened in Changchun; under the total-budget item was written 21 million yen [Y] (about W160 million). Foundation officials even said that an international conference was again going to be opened in Beijing on 1 September of this year. Judging from this, it is clear that the foundation is continuing to participate in the Tumen River Development Project unrelated to its relationship with the Hawaii East-West Center.

Parallel with this, it is reported that in the last few years the Sasakawa Foundation has been approaching the influential research organizations of China, Russia and North Korea. According to what scholars understand at present, the Soviet Academy of Science's Far East Branch Economic Research Institute, Khabarovsk National Kwandong [as published] University, Vladivostok Marine Research Institute, Changchun Asia-Pacific Research Institute, and Harbin University either receive aid from or have a relationship with this foundation.

In recent years, the Sasakawa Foundation has been making deep approaches to Korea and other Northeast Asian nations. As misgivings begin to spread among scholars that the motivation behind this is the realization of Japan's national objectives, gradually more of them are rejecting the foundation's offers.

"I received letters on several occasions from a Japanese foundation. Later, four or five foundation officials visited me and proposed a joint project related to local development. However, because I had already heard from another professor that there was a problem with this foundation, I flatly refused," said one Hanyang University professor. A professor from Tanguk University also refused a Sasakawa proposal. In a telephone interview he said, "I haven't said anything about this for fear I would be accused of plotting against someone. But a few professors unaware of the situation are indiscriminately forming relationships with the foundation; this is a big problem. We must guard against it."

It is reported that the foundation, for its own purposes, is contacting Korean scholars in a more covert fashion. Scholars taking a critical view of Japan after grasping its future inclinations are bound to be excluded from the objects of attempted contact. It seems the main targets for contact are generally professors who just returned from studying in the United States and elsewhere.

In spite of the fact that the cautious mood among some in the academic community is not letting up, persistent efforts by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation have started to bear some fruit. In Shimane-chi Matsue City, Japan, from 28-30 November of last year, a "Sea of Japan Basin Exchange International Seminar" was opened, cosponsored by the Sasakawa Foundation and Shimane-chi. Conference planning, contacting of scholars, as well as conference expenses were handled directly by foundation officials.

According to material obtained by *Sisa Journal*, it became clear that foundation representatives had been preparing for last year's international conference through domestic conferences since 1989. That is, for last year's international conference, the foundation had held domestic conferences in Japan once each year since 1989 and after finishing the work of preparation, 17 Japanese consultants were selected in last February's domestic conference. Preparation was carried out by forming these consultants and foundation officials into teams and for them to get in touch with the "contact organizations" and experts of the appropriate countries—China, North Korea, Russia and South Korea. The number of experts and contact organizations of each country formed in this process were 16 Chinese (International Trust Corporation, Economic Research Institute) and 19 Russians (Russian Academy of Science Far East Branch, Economic Research Institute). North Korea's contact organization, the Choson External Culture Liaison Association [Choson Taewoe Munhwa Yolak Hyophwoe], did not participate. In South Korea, Pohang's University was selected to be the contact organization with 23 persons appearing on the expert-group list.

One source who participated in the Korean consultants group said, "It looks like each nation's contact organization formed its consultants group, but it is my understanding that, in actuality, the list of scholars created by foundation officials during the three or four years they were traveling around had a great influence on the process."

Different than normal international conferences generally stress scholarly discussion. The Shimane-chi international conference opened last year held concentrated discussions on actual action plans and even produced a conclusion called the "Shimane Agreement." Setting up a concrete "Cooperative Action Plan," the Shimane Agreement even established an agenda calling for inspection in five years. For this, the foundation plans to provide expenses for national consultant conferences scheduled to convene in each country twice a year, including operating expenses for international conferences, and survey-research expenses for the promotion of this project.

"Beginning three or four years ago, I've been thinking that we must make the Pohang area a base city of the Sea of Japan Basin Era. There has been no one, however, neither the government nor industry nor domestic, scholastic foundations showing interest in this. This was when I was contacted by the Sasakawa Foundation," said one university professor from the Pohang region responsible for the Korean contact organization. "I am well aware of the fact that some are concerned about the foundation. Participating Korean scholars are very cautions because of this. But if you meet foundation officials, they don't seem to have only interested motives," he added.

Many worried voices are being raised by scholars who have closely watched the development of this conference, however. One source pointed out, "Concerning the internationalization of Japan, regional development, and other issues, Japan has been making detailed preparations centered on government, industry and research institutes for over ten years. But we haven't. If, in this state, some regions or scholars make sporadic contact with them, without the internal agreement of the academic community, it is possible they may get caught up in their plans."

DLP Asks Farmers To Accept Rice Purchase Plan

SK2011012593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0619 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 19 (YONHAP)—Ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) Chairman Kim Chong-pil met with representatives of the Korean Farmers' League (KFL) at party headquarters on Friday to try and quell protests over the proposed size of this year's state rice purchases.

Kim told KFL Chairman Yun Chong-sok that the DLP will try to increase the price and amount of rice that the state will buy from farmers when the purchase is debated by the National Assembly, but cautioned the KFL not to expect much change.

The government and the DLP agreed on Tuesday that the state should buy 9 million sok (1.3 million tons) of rice at prices 3 percent above last year's, setting off a storm of protest from opposition parties, farmers and even within the DLP.

Kim said, however, that the government did its best in drawing up the plan considering the budget, and that there will not be any big change in the National Assembly.

Yun demanded that the government buy 12 million sok of this year's rice crop for 16.7 percent more than it paid last year. He asked for the DLP to seek legislation to prevent the opening of rice and other agricultural markets, dismiss Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Ho Sin-haeng and increase compensation to farmers for the damage caused by bad weather.

The government had decided to pay 179.6 billion won in compensation for damage suffered from the cold summer this year.

Yun complained that Ho is the only agriculture minister in the world who has mentioned agricultural market opening and said farmers' organizations will campaign for his dismissal.

Ministry's Plan To Revise Secret Law Noted

SK2211023593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0149 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—People can ask the defense minister to reveal a military secret from next year, but if they pass the secret to a foreign government they will be punished more heavily than this year.

The Defense Ministry confirmed Monday that it will revise the military secret protection law after discussions with the Justice Ministry, the Government Administration Ministry, and the Agency for National Security Planning.

If approved by the National Assembly in its current sitting, the amendments to the law could take force next year.

The law was passed in 1972 and revised in 1981 and 1987, but this will be the first time that it will be completely revised or that the public will have the right to demand that the government reveal military secrets.

Under the bill, any Korean national can ask the defense minister to show them any military secret, and the minister must show it to them if he thinks the ministry needs to and if it is in the interest of national security.

The bill increases the penalty for passing a military secret to a foreign government 1.5-fold, apparently in response to a senior Defense Ministry official's giving military secrets to a Japanese reporter in June.

Additionally, the revision scraps a provision that imposes additional punishment on newspapers and other publications for printing military secrets, providing the same penalty as for everyone else, and it is no longer a crime for someone to reveal a secret if they did not know it was a secret.

Defense Ministry Oversees Helicopter Manufacture

Selects Samsung Aerospace

SK2211072693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0527 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—The Defense Ministry has selected Samsung Aerospace Industries Ltd. to be the sole manufacturer of engines for the UH-60 Black Hawk Helicopter, a Ministry spokesman said on Monday. When the Ministry bought 81 UH-60 Helicopters in 1990, it asked Korean Air to import engine parts for assembly in Korea and later asked Samsung to manufacture 16 parts. It was decided to make Samsung Aerospace the sole manufacturer of the engines so that production is more coherent and effective, the spokesman said.

Korean Air Refuses License Transfer

SK2211121793 Seoul YONHAP in English 1125 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—Korean Air, furious at the Defense Ministry decision to make Samsung Aerospace Industries Ltd. the sole manufacturer and assembler of second-phase UH-60 helicopter engines over the heads of itself, has decided not to turn the engine license it obtained from an American firm over to Samsung. The Defense Ministry has urged Korean Air to turn the license and related equipment and technical materials to Samsung Aerospace. But, Korean Air, in a letter to the Ministry, said on Monday it cannot.

It reasoned that under a license contract with the General Electric (GE) of the United States, the license cannot be transferred to some one else without GE's advance consent. Korean Air said that besides it has to keep the license at least until the first-phase helicopter project it has been undertaking is completed.

The company claimed it cannot transfer related equipment and technological materials either because it needs them for its own future aerospace programs.

Korean Air has been assembling 81 UH-60 helicopter engines with parts supplied by General Electric in the first-phase helicopter project awarded under the Yulgok arms procurement program. But, the Defense Ministry a while ago let Samsung Aerospace manufacture and supply parts for 28 of the 81 UH-60 engines and on Monday announced it would have Samsung exclusively manufacture parts for, and assemble, 57 UH-60 Black Hawk engines in the second-phase helicopter project.

A Ministry official said the change of the manufacturer is for more coherent and effective production, adding that there will be no problem in the transfer of the license. He noted that the 8 million dollars which Korean Air paid to General Electric for the license was disbursed from the

Yulgok fund and General Electric agreed not to charge additional license fees when the license is re-granted to Samsung.

Consistent Policy Urged

SK2211151893 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 22 Nov 93 p 7

[By reporter Yi Chong-chae]

[Text] The prospective next-generation aerospace industry is in turbulence even before taking off due to the government's inconsistent policy. The government, which wasted energy going back and forth in the selection process between the F-18 and F-16 for the aircraft model for the Korea Fighter Program, is causing controversy in the domestic aerospace industry by suddenly changing the engine manufacturer.

According to related authority and aerospace industry officials on 21 November, the Defense Ministry recently notified that it changed the engine assembling company for the second phase production of the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter, which is being produced under the Army reinforcement plan, from Korean Air to Samsung Aerospace. The Defense Ministry Public Affairs Office says the Ministry is considering changing the engine manufacturer but no decision has been made. According to the official document with serial no. "Sahel 24500" stamped with the official seal of the Defense Minister and sent to the industry, the Ministry changed the assembling company of UH-60's engine T-700 to Samsung Aerospace, which puts the company in charge of parts processing, assembling, inspection, and testing.

In the official document, the Defense Ministry ordered Korean Air, which has been producing the T-700 engines, to transfer the engine license contract made with General Electric [GE] of the United States to Samsung Aerospace, return government assets to the Defense Quality Assurance Agency, and hand over related equipment and technological data to Samsung Aerospace. The Defense Ministry also indicated that it would be impossible to provide compensate if Korean Air does not implement the order. The Defense Ministry ordered Samsung Aerospace to either take over the license rights from Korean Air or make a new license agreement and prepare for the localization of engine parts and for the assembling production of the engines.

Although the Defense Ministry explained that such a measure is based on a comprehensive evaluation of production management, economy, and specialization by category, the domestic aerospace industry points out that the Ministry caused a great loss in investment by unilaterally suspending the production by an existing company and ordering a new company to make a new agreement with the foreign manufacturer, and that it has damaged the government's reliability. It is known that Samsung Aerospace has to pay more than $6 million for the new license agreement and make a new investment of over 10 billion won.

In the meantime, Korean Air, which has produced and delivered over 50 helicopters after being designated the bulk contractor for the fuselage and engine of the helicopter in September 1990, asserts that the Defense Ministry's measure should be withdrawn immediately. Korean Air paid GE a license fee of 7.7 billion won to secure the license rights for the engine production from 1990 to 2010. It has achieved a 36 percent localization rate. Korean Air asserts that it might have to lose its investment of 15.2 billion won made in the engine production.

In addition to Korean Air, domestic aerospace companies, such as Daewoo Heavy Industries and Hyundai Precision, analyze that the Defense Ministry's measure is a prearrangement to specialize and categorize the aerospace industry by fostering one specific company, and point out that the government's plan to specialize the aerospace industry by category should be reconsidered. The aerospace industry asserts that the government's aerospace industry policy is at a loss noting that it legislated an aerospace industry development law in 1978 to develop the domestic aerospace industry, changed registration by approval to registration by filing in 1988, took a measure for multi-appointment of aircraft manufacturers in 1990, and now in less than four years, changed its policy again.

The related industry urges government's consistent industrial policy and active determination to develop the prospective next-generation aerospace industry, which has an added value of 47 percent.

* Next Targets for Kim Yong-sam's Reform Noted

942C0002 Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 23 Sep 93 pp 10-12

[Text] Many describe President Kim Yong-sam's real name financial system as "electrifying." The announcement was so sudden, so few had any idea of its coming. Likewise, few it seems, had been prepared sufficiently for the system.

There are those who maintain that President Kim's implementation of the real name financial system, particularly its timing, is purely motivated by politics. What they mean by this is that he opted for an early implementation of real name financial system as he faced a choice between "Reform or Economy" because it was determined that the possibility of economic vitalization was remote. There are also some who say that with an assessment of his performance at his first anniversary of taking office approaching, he went ahead with the early implementation of real name financial system as a substitute for economic vitalization which he judged to be improbable.

Underlying all of these analyses is that President Kim's implementation of the real name financial system was not based on some sort of a planned time table.

It has been widely speculated ever since the very early days of his assuming office that President Kim Yong-sam did not have any sort of master plan for administration. There were opinions abound that the piecemeal measures adopted to deal with given situations turned out to be appropriate ones by a sheer "fortune". Some insiders, who are the driving force for reform, have been saying, when asked, that they knew nothing of administration management plans. And, there were many who thought that the real name financial system was also one of those piecemeal measures.

The same may be said about instances surrounding financial disclosure measures. When introduced, they saw the atmosphere favorable for them and foresaw their smooth sailing this time around. This favorable reception was particularly strong among political organizations. All of a sudden, however, this atmosphere has seen a change. This sudden change in the atmosphere was said to be due to President Kim's expression of his view on the matter. The atmosphere of political organizations had turned around after the official meeting President Kim had with representatives of Kim Chong-pil's (Democratic Liberal Party).

There were plenty of speculations surrounding this instance. The point was that the measure was not an originally planned activity. It has been said that the policy had been altered toward enforcement of the existing statutes rather than enactment of a new measure when it became clear that the result of the new financial disclosure measure would be less than what was desired because of the state of the political organizations, which may be called untidy.

However, the core explanation presented by President Kim's spokesmen is that all of these analyses are off the mark. They maintain that all the measures implemented including the real name financial system and the purge of official corruption through financial disclosures are based on a certain broad plan. Take the real name financial system, for example. Its timing was within the policy that those measures would be implemented before the regular session of the Assembly convened, adopted immediately after the president took office. And according to this explanation, it was expected to be a couple of months before the Assembly got on its regular track after its preliminary complexities. As for the manner in which the real name financial system was implemented, the explanation was that it had to be a blitz in order to minimize the adverse effects had the information been leaked out prematurely. And it was timed, by design, to have it preceding the financial disclosure measure. Also, this explanation says that the state of emergency decree was a part of the plan all along.

The same explanation applies to the financial disclosure measures. The "voluntary" disclosure measure implemented last spring was done with an anticipation that the statutory disclosure measure would follow in or around the fall. The purge of public officials following the second disclosure measure was also in the provision of this broad plan.

Of course, we can not be totally convinced that these explanations are truthful simply by listening to the core presentation delivered by the official spokesmen. We can understand that the people whose job is to defend the president had to deliver those explanations regardless of their validity.

Notwithstanding, there is a strong probability that President Kim is carrying out his reform measures according to a certain plan as his spokesmen stated. It is difficult to conceive that his reform measures have taken place with such precision without a plan.

Supposing that this planned measure theory is true, the question now is what would be President Kim's next target in the plan. It is obvious that President Kim would not let this year pass by with just the single issue of financial disclosure in the burner. It is not President Kim's style nor would it sit well with the political climate. It may be said that President Kim could feel defensive because of the economic difficulty. To President Kim, the theory that the reform measures are obstructive to economic vitalization is nothing but an "anti-reform" rhetoric.

About the question as to what the next agenda migh be, there are a lot of street talks along the political corridors.

First, the most prevalent is that President Kim's next agenda would be the government reform. The government reform to achieve a "lean yet strong government" was President Kim's campaign promise. For the subject matter, there has already been a commission for government reform and renewal established within the administration.

It is revealed that a subcommittee of the reform and renewal commission known as the "structural reorganization task force" is in charge of the government reorganization as a part of the government reform. This is an outfit, solely recognized of the commission, that has conducted not a single press briefing on its work progress. There is a speculation lately that this subcommittee is making a substantial progress in its assigned tasks.

Rumor has it that there has also been a task force created within the administration to promote the government reform. And this task force is said to work independently of the commission. The primary objective of the task force is to review the organization of provincial and local administrations. Of course, the administration has strongly denied such a rumor. Interior Minister Yi Hae-ku went out of his way to deny it and said, "Anyone who reports this would end up a laughing stock for his mistake of being caught in a false rumor." From the strong tone of Minister Yi's denial, one may detect that the "surgery" on provincial and local administrations might take a prolonged period.

There have already been numerous rumors concerning the central government and a document called "The Government Plan" has been being circulated among those on popular financial streets. The document shows that the plan consists of two parts, the overall reform and the specific reform. According to the overall reform plan, the Ministries of Economic Planning and Finance would be consolidated into one Ministry of Economy, and the Commerce Ministry and the Science and Technology Office into the Ministry of Industry and Technology. And, the Ministries of Labor and Social Welfare into the Ministry of Social Affairs, and the Ministries of Transportation and Construction into the Ministry of Transportation and Construction. The specific reform plan deals with the major changes in the Economic Planning Ministry's functions. Considered nothing more than a financial street document, it contains a substantially plausible analysis, as well. Government reform is by no means an easy task. An Assemblyman [Democratic Liberal Party], originally a member of the 5-Kong Group, said, "The failure of 5-Kong's attempt to establish a new military structure is precisely the example for the difficulty of government reform." According to this source, there had been several more attempts after the initial failure and every one of them had failed. Generally, a government reform may be carried out successfully by an administration at its very early stage as soon as it takes the reign of government. Its disruptive effects on government workers is simply too enormous. Many people believe that the will of reform by itself would not be able to bring it about.

Once this and the types of problems the government reform effort would run into are considered, it appears less likely that the reform would be the next agenda immediately following the financial disclosure measure in President Kim's "plan". There are many who predict that this reform might be attempted, realistically, sometime in the middle of the next year at the earliest. As for the question of environment of the reform, it seems of little relevance whether the government reform succeeds the financial disclosure reform. Some of the (Democratic Party) officials have been using an expressive phrase: the public foundation financial disclosure measure. The rumor, in other words, is that there is going to be a financial disclosure measure for religious organizations. The story is that President Kim would invite religious leaders and urge them to join in his reform efforts and persuade them to adopt a voluntary financial disclosure measure.

No details are available to back this up, yet. But plenty of speculations. For the record, however, President Kim has once already called upon the religious organizations to join in his reform efforts, soon after his inauguration. Despite this call, the fact remains that there has been no evidence that the religious organizations are taking any substantive measure to join in the reform efforts. In view of this, the religious organization financial disclosure theory becomes sufficiently plausible. Any compulsive measure is unlikely, of course. But having enough pressures brought upon them, it seems, the religious organizations could not easily escape the issue without doing something about it. And it is obvious that there would be a ripple of disquiet throughout the society in case the religious organization financial disclosure measure was actually implemented.

We are anxious to see what is actually up President Kim's sleeve. Then, we come to realize that President Kim is a man who constantly stirs up something.

* Paper Profiles Chief Justice Yun Kwan

942C0012A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 7 Oct 93 pp 10-12

[By reporter Sin Hyong-jun]

[Text] South Cholla Province, Haenam-gun, Hyonsan-myon, Ilpyong-ri— although not a seaside village, the wind brings in the sounds and smells of the sea. The boy grew up as a 12th-generation descendant of Kosan's Yun Son-to [1587-1671, a famous civil minister and poet]. He received a strict education worthy of a descendant of Yun of Haenam.

His grandfather trained him to use a low form of speech to other people of the village who were not members of the Yun clan, even if they were much older. If there was a sacrificial rite at an important family's house, a servant would carry him there on his back even though he was a junior high school student. As he grew up, the boy felt burdened by having to speak and act this way toward people around him. He even rebelled against it occasionally, but this only resulted in a switching by his grandfather.

The boy's father was the chief magistrate of his myon [a subdivision of a gun]. Now approaching 60, his memories of how affluent his family was are dim. All he can remember is that they had four male and female servants in a six-room house.

War came the summer of his 15th year, while he was studying in Seoul. His father was shot by leftists and his house and land were confiscated. The boy who had to treat the people around him with "disrespect" was "mistreated" by those people. Beginning at this time, the boy came to believe, "the law must apply to all people." It was also at this time that he decided to study law.

Already having borne three daughters, his mother had a son after offering sacrifice to the spirits. She then began to sell off their property a little at a time to provide for his education. With two brothers and four sisters, they had no choice but to split up and go live with their relatives in Kwangju and Seoul. They were able to come together again in 1958, when he, the eldest son, passed the high civil-service law examination after graduating from Yonsei University's law school.

Afterwards, the young man passed through the positions of High Court Chief Judge, Chonju District Court Justice, Supreme Court Justice and Chairman of the Central Election Management Committee to be appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court on 25 September.

Chief Justice Yun Kwan was called "Kongmyong Kyoju" [impartial founder of a school of thought] by employees of the Central Election Management Committee. Going to work at 0800 and, without fail, returning home a little after 1800, neighbors call him the "Clock Judge." Even on 23 September, the day the informal decision to appoint him to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court was announced to the press, he came home at 1840 as always. He was Central Election Management Committee Chairman for four years and proudly says, "Not even once did I meet individually with politicians or senior officials."

It would be easy, hearing only this, to think of him as a sharp and fastidious person who knows only principle. People who have met him, however, all say "he's a ordinary person with a free and easy character." When speaking informally with others, his unaffected South-Cholla accent increases a sense of intimacy.

At about 1730 on 23 September, we went to visit Chief Justice Yun at his home in Kusan-dong Unpyong-gu, Seoul. His is a two-story, Western-style house with a floor space of 49 pyong [193.746 square yards] on a 62-pyong [245.148 square yards] lot. In his yard are a persimmon tree, a Chinese date tree and a maple tree. There is nothing in the maru [a wooden-floored room] worth calling interior decoration. There is only one sofa able to seat about four people. It is missing any real study or audio system. It is typical of a plain, lower-income family.

They moved there in 1976. Yun from the Sunchon District Court, where he was Chief Judge, to the Seoul District Civil Court in 1975. He got bank financing and bought his present home after living in a key-money house for a year. It was in 1985 that he completely paid-off his home loan. There may be people who question, "Doesn't it hurt the prestige of a judge to live like this?" "At one time, there were as many as 12 relatives, who were having a hard time making ends meet, living with us under the same roof," said his second son Yong-sin (30, works for a private company), "he's far from being concerned about money."

One can see his character in his attitude toward cars. It was only in 1987 that Chief Justice Yun got a car. This was the Pride [an inexpensive car] purchased by his oldest son, Chun (32, a justice of the Chunchon District Court). This car was sold last year. His third son, Yong-bo (28, an employee of Hyundai Construction) bought a 1986 Presto for 400,000 Won five months ago. When he needed a car for personal business, he always made use of the Pride or Presto driven by his sons.

When he has time, Yun goes to the market with his sons and buys fish and crab meat. When his two sons living on their own come to visit, he occasionally "tells on" his sons' "weakness'" to his daughters-in-law and even gets in "fist fights" with his sons. This is how informal he is. Yun and his sons will even go to Noraebang ["Song Room." Korean-style Karaoke parlors]. He likes the songs "Achim Isul [Morning Dew]" and Onionsu's "Pyonji [Letter]."

He prefers Mt. Chiri to Mt. Sorak because he likes "coziness." "I've climbed Mt. Chiri about 50 times and Mt. Sorak about 30 times," Yun says, "The spaciousness of Mt. Chiri fits my personality." On weekends, he never fails to climb Mt. Pukan. He always goes to work with his mountain-climbing gear and goes up the mountain when he's through. During the summer, just when the sun is setting, he hikes in the mountains behind his neighborhood, sometimes called "Mt. Pong" and "Mt. Ku." He also enjoyed tennis at one time, even winning a Chongju District Court Tennis Tournament while chief judge there in 1983. However, "My condition hasn't been good enough, so I haven't played for three or four years."

He also enjoys boxing and baseball broadcasts. He told us that he watched the recent confrontation between Chaves and Whitaker. We asked which professional baseball team he liked and he said, "Haetae, of course." [Haetae is a Cholla-Province team].

We asked Yun what books had deeply impressed him lately. "I haven't been able to read novels or even magazines," he said, answering honestly, "I haven't seen a movie in ten years."

This free and easy attitude, however, is combined in one body with his "principles." Here is one example to show how thoroughly he sticks to his principles.

In 1969, when he was a judge at the Kwangju district court, he became a founding member of a golf club made up of people in the legal profession. He participated in the club for a time, but no longer attended after about a year and has not golfed even once since then. His reason: "It doesn't fit my personality." His skill in golf stopped at a handicap of not quite 30.

"If it's 9:00 PM, he'll say, I've got to sleep,' even if his sons and daughters-in-law come to visit," says Chief Justice Yun's younger sister [Yun] Chong-nam (57), "He occasionally hears complaints from his brothers and sisters such as 'Isn't he ignoring us because he's too buried in his work?'."

Chief Justice Yun is a man of both "coziness" and "principle." How will he lead the judiciary in the future? Concerning his "first task as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court," he said: "It seems the media is forgetting something. 1995 is the hundred-year anniversary of the appearance of ordinance number one, the Court Organization Law [Chaepanso Kusong Pob]. It has been one hundred years since the appearance of the judiciary in its modern sense. I think now is the time tp again illuminate its history. We'll have to take another look at both the things we've done well and the things we've distorted. Something will have to change. I'm planning for this."

He does not seem to totally agree with the judicial reform or with the popular opinion of "political judges."

"Questions concerning political judges or the property of judges should not be dealt with haphazardly in the newspapers. I think judges should be a little 'mysterious.' If they loose their mystery, consent to their decisions will loose some of its meaning. Of course, if there is a problem with a judge, then a clear inspection of the evidence against him will have to be made even more stringent than that of a trial. There seem to be situations in which a political judge refers to a judicial officer in a specific position. This shouldn't be the case. The decision to resign or remain in office must be left up to the individual to make according to the dictates of his conscious. You can't call someone a political judge without any legal basis to do so. The issue must be decided based on his efforts not to neglect his duties as a judge."

On 23 September, at 2200, Chief Justice Yun went to his master bedroom to spend time alone. His brothers and sisters and other relatives, who had been carrying on a lively conversation in the maru [wooden-floored room], all left at about 2300.

Chief Justice Yun and his wife, O Hyon (57) have four sons (the youngest, Yong-du, is presently serving in the military.).

Building Licenses for Foreign Firms in 1994

SK2311055293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0426 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—The government will issue building licenses to companies 100 percent owned by foreigners and treat them equally with Korean firms from 1994. The government also plans to issue building licenses for foreign companies from 1996.

Construction Ministry officials said Tuesday that these plans were worked out in anticipation of the liberalization of the country's construction industry. The government will revise the laws on construction and various related statutes so that any company owned 100 percent by foreigners can be regarded as a corporate body in Korea, the officials said. But the branch offices in Korea of foreign construction firms or private companies owned by foreign individuals will be restricted in receiving orders in the non-offer field of the government procured construction projects.

Moreover, the government plans to apply a ceiling on contracts won by foreign firms with Korean licenses unless they have a preferred qualification.

The contract ceiling will be based on performance, funds and technology development investment, but capital will be the biggest consideration at the beginning.

From 1996, when licenses are issued to foreign companies, performance in third countries will be reflected in assessing contract ceilings. Companies wholly owned by foreigners will have to join the construction association of Korea. The branch offices of foreign construction companies or firms privately owned by foreigners will be left to themselves to decide whether to join the association. The government plans to allow foreign companies to join the Mutual Aid Construction Association as associate members.

Development Bank Projects 7% Growth Till '97

SK2311031093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0154 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 23 (YONHAP)—If economic growth is to average 7 percent a year for the rest of the new economy five-year plan (1993-97), facility investment must increase almost 9 percent a year, the Korea Development Bank (KDB) said in a report Tuesday. The report on mid-term prospects for facility investment and optimum investment attributes the current stagnation to less than ideal investment during the business boom.

The government must take steps without delay to promote facility investment by measures such as expansion of support for technology development and expansion of social infrastructure, it says.

If the economy grows 4.5 percent this year, it must average 7.7 percent in 1994-97 to attain the goal of 7-percent average real economic growth during 1993-97. The report says a 7-percent average is also desirable to maintain economic stability.

Facility investment in industry should increase 7.8 percent to 44,336 billion won (55 billion U.S. dollars) next year. It should rise an average 8.9 percent a year during 1994-97 to total 204,447 billion won for the period. However, facility investment is likely to rise no more than 5.4 percent next year, 7.3 percent in 1995, 7.6 percent in 1996 and 7.7 percent in 1997, averaging 7 percent.

Total facility investment is expected to reach 193,311 billion won, 11,136 billion won below the ideal of 204,447 billion won. The report says that Korea is suffering stagnation because it did not invest enough during the business boom of 1986-89.

So if facility investment keeps falling short of the optimum level, it will seriously damage economic growth, according to the report.

It is desirable for the government to take mid- and long-term measures rather than attempt a quick fix because the inactivity of facility investment results from structural factors like a weakening of the industrial competitiveness of Korean industry, the KDB report says.

Customs Procedures To Be Simplified Next Year

SK2211100093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0757 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—Airport customs inspections in South Korea will be streamlined for visit Korea year in 1994, the Korean Customs Administration said Monday. The baggage of people who are not suspected of crimes will be examined by a fluoroscope and a simple check for the convenience of Korean and foreign tourists, whose numbers are expected to soar next year. But if the fluoroscopy uncovers a threat to national security or suspected contraband, customs inspectors will make a close examination.

Bags of suspected terrorists and smugglers will be inspected closely, however, and luggage subject to close examination will be increased from the current 0.4 percent of the total to 5 percent.

Meanwhile, tourist guides will be stationed alongside customs inspectors to lessen the inconvenience to tourists during visit Korea year.

Stock Market Deposits Exceed 3 Trillion Won

SK2211123493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1150 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 22 (YONHAP)—Stock players' deposits exceeded the 3,000-billion-won level at the South Korean stock exchange.

A Securities Supervisory Board source said on Monday that players' deposits reached 3,028.7 billion won as of last Saturday, up 41.1 billion won over the previous day.

The source said that the deposits were reduced by 120 billion won to 2,583.1 billion won in a period from last Oct. 12, the deadline for changing false- or borrowed-name monetary accounts into real name ones, to Oct. 31. The deposits, however, increased by 445.6 billion won in the first 20 days of this month or 24.8 billion won a day on the average.

As stock market conditions were improving, those stock players who had left the market during the past sluggish market performance period, have been coming back in force to the bourse, the source said.

Burma

Reaction to Khin Nyunt Offer for Peace Talks

Opposition Figures Comment

BK2011134393 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1345 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Dear listeners: While Rangoon radio said the military government in Burma has made a new overture to the ethnic rebels to hold peace talks, an opposition source quoted the rebels as saying that the opposition leader, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, must be released before any talks can be held.

Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], has made an offer to the ethnic rebels, who have been engaged in a futile rebellion for 40 years, to hold peace talks with the government. Rangoon radio said the overture was made at the meeting of commanders held in Kayah State last Wednesday [17 November].

Following the announcement of a unilateral cease-fire last April, the SLORC held separate talks with the individual rebel groups and made offers to other rebel groups to hold peace talks. But so far, there is no sign of talks with the KNU [Karen National Union], the largest ethnic rebel group. While the SLORC has made separate peace with the Pa-o, Wa, and Shan rebels, it has also agreed to hold talks with the KIO, the Kachin Independence Organization. To hear about response and reaction to Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt's offer, the BBC conducted a telephone interview with the KNU, the largest ethnic rebel group. U Arthur Shwe, a spokesman for the KNU, expressed the views of the KNU and the (?National Democratic United Front) as follows:

[Begin Arthur Shwe recording] At the moment, General Mya, chairman of the DAB [Democratic Alliance of Burma], and other leaders are not here. But in my view, I think we have to follow the principles that we have laid down. We have demanded the abolition of dictatorship, restoration of full democratic rights to the people, and the establishment of genuine federal states. At present, the KNU and the DAB do not accept the separate cease-fire and individual talks between the SLORC and the KIO. The matters must be handled correctly if one wants to stop this civil war. I believe that, after announcing the nationwide cease-fire, all parties should be invited to hold talks to achieve and build a true peace. [end recording]

Concerning the SLORC's offer, U Thein U, justice minister of the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma and general secretary of the National Council of Burma [NCB], expressed the view of his organizations as follows:

[Begin U Thein U recording] If the SLORC has a genuine desire for peace it should have a clear and decisive view when inviting the various groups to hold peace talks. To have a clear and decisive view, first, the SLORC must have a genuine desire for peace, and second, to implement this desire, the SLORC must work courageously and honestly for peace.

If the SLORC has a genuine desire for peace it should invite all of the people and organizations who also have a desire for peace to hold talks without any preconditions. It should treat all people and the organizations equally. For instance, the SLORC should avoid using such terms as return to the legal fold.

If it is going to be a nationwide peace, therefore, a declaration has to be issued concerning the [word indistinct] representing the country. The SLORC should not say things casually. Nationwide peace concerns everyone in the country. That is why the people should be informed about the facts and figures of the peace talks. Only then will people know who is right and who is wrong, know what the facts are, and assist in finding solutions. If the SLORC can guarantee all of this then genuine peace negotiations will emerge. We want to work openly and honestly because we are working for genuine peace and democracy in Burma. Therefore, what the SLORC is currently saying is not enough. If the SLORC wants to have true peace negotiations it should officially announce the invitation and a statement expressing its views. All of us are responsible for reconstructing our country. Peace can be achieved only when we work honestly. Holding peace talks with individual groups will not produce peace. If the SLORC wants genuine peace it should work courageously. [end recording]

Dear listeners, you have just heard the response from NCB General Secretary U Thein U. He said that comments about peace talks should not be made casually. Later, I asked a student group that went underground because of SLORC pressure to respond to Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt's offer to hold peace talks. U Ko Ko U, general secretary of the group, expressed the views of his group:

[Begin Ko Ko U recording] I think the offer made by Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt was not official and the SLORC was just trying to divide and rule the minority groups during the meeting in Kayah State. We think the SLORC's main objective is to divide the minority groups from the descendants of the Four Eight [8 August 1988] uprising. The SLORC is driving a wedge between the minority groups and the Four Eight groups for political benefit. It shows the SLORC is dishonest, because it is not doing it officially. Actually, the SLORC should issue an official statement saying it has reached a peace agreement with so-and-so armed group, or it has achieved a cease-fire agreement with so-and-so armed group. I don't think the SLORC is being sincere in mentioning this topic during the meeting. [end recording]

Offer for Talks Examined

BK2011142393 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1345 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Report by Larry Jagen from the "International Affairs" program]

[Text] Dear listeners: It seems that the announcement made by Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, chief of the Directorate of Defense Services Intelligence, while he was visiting Loikaw in Kayah State has carried more meaning than intended. It was just a general announcement to show the government's desire for nationwide peace. For the so-called short-term peace, or whatever you may call it, the Burmese Government is seriously extending its hand to hold peace negotiations with the rebel groups that are fighting against Rangoon.

In his public announcement, Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt invited all armed organizations to return to the legal fold as soon as possible to work with the government. Observers from a reliable source say the announcement should be regarded as a request to ethnic minority groups to agree in principle to hold peace talks with representatives of the Burmese Government without giving up their arms, which is not a normal practice. He said he is extending the invitation to the armed insurgents on behalf of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, which is governing Burma, and the government.

Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt exploited a casual opportunity—his visit to the border region in Kayah State—to extend the invitation to hold peace negotiations with the armed organizations. During his visit to the border region, he expressed the need for regional development to bridge the socioeconomic gap between the urban areas and remote regions. He added that regional development could resolve the armed conflicts between the government and the ethnic minority groups. He said regional development is possible in the Kachin and Chin states because the people, who have returned to the legal fold, are actively participating in regional development activities. Observers believe he was referring to the peace negotiations with the KIO, the Kachin Independence Organization. Although Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt's invitation did not refer to any particular group, it is clear that he was referring to the Karen, Karenni, and Mon rebel groups, the three main rebel groups actively fighting the government.

Observers believe that although Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt used the words cautiously in his invitation, he is seriously inviting the armed organizations to peace negotiations. There is no doubt that he made his offer publicly. Loikaw is close to the Thai border, and it has been learned that top Thai military officers are involved in the negotiations between Rangoon and the ethnic minority groups. A diplomatic source says that from the general nature of this offer, it seems Rangoon is waiting to see the reaction of the Karen and other ethnic minority groups before any separate suggestions are made for a nationwide cease-fire and for peace talks.

Delegation Returns From Population Meeting

BK1811145493 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 Nov 93

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by Lieutenant General Mya Thinn, minister of home affairs, arrived back in Myanmar at 1500 after attending the ministerial meeting on population matters held at the Central Hall of the International Convention Center in Bali, Indonesia, on 9-13 November sponsored by the Nonaligned Movement.

Lt. Gen. Mya Thinn, the Myanmar delegation leader and minister of home affairs, delivered an address on Myanmar population and family planning matters at the conference on 12 November.

Than Shwe Accepts Ambassador's Credentials

BK1711143393 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Nov 93

[Text] Senior General Than Shwe, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], accepted the credentials of Mr. Arthur C. Perron, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Canada to the Union of Myanmar, at the Ministry of Defense's Dagon House at 1000 today.

Present at the occasion were Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, SLORC secretary-1; U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs; and Thura U Aung Htet, director general of the Protocol Department.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Commentary Views Importance of APEC Meeting

BK2211155593 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Seattle summit of Asia-Pacific leaders is over. It was (?undoubtedly) an important gathering of trade ministers and government leaders. Several statements were made, but it is the economic vision statement that has attracted much media comment.

Looking at the text of the statement, one is impressed by the variety of ambitions, goals, and promises. What is vital is naturally the follow-up or the manner in which the vision statement will be translated into action. A statement like this is not a treaty or a binding agreement, but it has moral force. Doubtless, the Asia-Pacific region has forged ahead in respect of industrial growth and general economic progress. It will continue to make good progress.

The decision by President Clinton to promote the summit itself is most important for the Asia-Pacific region today. The fact that this region already accounts for 40 percent of global trade is thought the proof of Asian economic strength. The Clinton administration is of course anxious to emphasize its link with the Pacific area. His success in obtaining congressional support for NAFTA or the North American Free Trade Agreement has strengthened President Clinton's administration.

The Seattle meeting has also served as a visible symbol of American awareness of Asia and its aspirations. It is unfortunate that there is still some misunderstanding of what the East Asia Economic Caucus [EAEC] stands for. The EAEC is not competing with APEC, rather it is a forum within APEC. A forum is not an organization, but a think-tank to generate ideas. It is worth noting that steadily the EAEC has been receiving support. China is the latest country to welcome the EAEC idea. An official Chinese statement welcomed the EAEC as taking into account the economic diversity of the region. That diversity must be recognized and the Malaysian prime minister [words indistinct]. Now President Clinton, at the Seattle meeting, has said that he has no objection to the East Asia Economic Caucus plan.

ASEAN will continue to promote the EAEC idea. The secretary general of ASEAN continues his mission to various Asian capitals for this purpose. Meanwhile, the date set for the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of talks draws near—15 December is the deadline.

Will it be possible to accomplish the global trade system by that date? Everyone will point the conclusion of the Seattle summit and forecast that it can be done. Malaysia has already indicated its willingness to reduce several tariff items. As long as the political will exists, the noble goal of liberalization of world trade can be achieved.

New Political Party Established in Sabah

BK2211121593 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 21 Nov 93 p 8

[Text] Kota Kinabalu, Sat.—A new political party headed by former federal territory minister Datuk Pengiran Othman Rauf has been formed in the state.

The party called the United People of Sabah, Malaysia, Organisation or Bersama is now awaiting approval from the Registrar of Societies.

Othman, who is also former state culture, youth, and sports minister, told a press conference here today that Bersama, a multiracial party, had submitted its application to the Registrar last month.

"We were informed that our application is being considered. We hope the Registrar of Societies will register the new party as soon as possible. He said Bersama intended to field candidates in all 48 state constituencies in the next elections irrespective of whether the party would be registered or not.

Othman, who was a federal minister from 1979 to 1983, said "as a party formed by leaders of the people for the people of Sabah," voters would have a viable alternative to the existing parties to form the next state government.

He said the party's line-up would comprise experienced and young leaders.

"We believe in working with the federal government and at the same time look after the interests of citizens in Sabah. We will discuss Sabah affairs with federal leaders based on compromise, sincerity, and integrity."

Othman, who resigned as Parti Berjaya vice president in July 1983, said that at present, one of the important issues that needed urgent attention was state-federal relations.

Other issues included the security and livelihood of the people, the state economy, and problems relating to the presence of illegal immigrants, he said.

"Bersama is also concerned about corruption and abuse of power in the state."

Asked about Bersama's chances of winning the next state elections, he said feedback showed that the party had good support at grassroots level. "I think our chances are good."

Othman said the party's symbol depicted the map of Sabah, an image of Mount Kinabalu, and three circles in the centre.

The party's headquarters is in the new township of Putatan.

Mahathir Says No 'Rush' on Cabinet Changes

BK2211120393 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 21 Nov 93 p 2

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sat.—Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said today he was taking charge of the Rural Development Ministry portfolio following the resignation of its minister Encik [Mr.] Ghafar Baba from the cabinet last month.

Asked by reporters whether he would make changes to the cabinet, Dr. Mahathir said: "There is plenty of time ... there is no need to rush."

He was speaking at a press conference after opening the Koperasi Usaha Bersatu (KUB) 13th annual general meeting in Subang, near here.

Dr. Mahathir said there was no problem in the matter. "We (cabinet) all can do our work as a team."

Asked whether he had the opportunity to meet with Ghafar, Dr. Mahathir said he had not had the chance.

"He is not in the country...I hope to meet him in the near future," he said.

On his absence at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] meeting in Seattle, Dr. Mahathir said he had no regrets.

"I am quite happy as you can see," said Dr Mahathir who was in a jovial mood when he responded to a question from a NEW YORK TIMES journalist.

He said the Australians seemed to be offended because he did not go.

"I don't understand why...I mean the condemnation against me as a person just because I didn't go...I just don't understand these Australians," he said.

Asked what would have made him go to Seattle, Dr. Mahathir said there must be some change in the attitude towards the EAEC [East Asian Economic Caucus].

"And APEC should stay as it was when it was proposed as a loose organisation with projects and programmes to carry out," he added.

Dr. Mahathir said Malaysia would continue with the efforts to explain to other countries, especially the United States, on why they should agree with the EAEC.

"We will continue to do so until we achieve our objective. It may take some time. We will use whatever way possible," he said.

Asked whether countries such as the U.S. understood Malaysia's explanation, Dr. Mahathir said: "I think it is impossible for them not to understand, especially after years of explanation and very clear explanation.

"I don't think they cannot understand. It is just that they don't want to accept EAEC because they (U.S.) are not in.

"I cannot imagine the U.S. being an Asian country and for that reason they cannot be a member of EAEC," he said.

Asked whether he could have accomplished more by attending the APEC meeting, Dr. Mahathir said even if he had gone, it would not have made much difference.

He said there was a move to turn APEC into an institutionalised counterpart of the European Community and develop it into a free trade area.

"That is not what APEC is all about. As far as we are concerned, the relationship between APEC and EAEC had been determined and there should not be a misunderstanding," he said.

Dr. Mahathir said the Bill Clinton administration was more accommodating than the previous George Bush government, but apparently this was not enough to convince the Japanese that they should support the EAEC.

Asked whether he had been in contact with Clinton, the prime minister said he had written to him on various occasions and the president had also written to him on various occasions.

"For example, on Bosnia, I wrote to him to appeal that the U.S. act and President Clinton had written to explain the U.S. policy on Somalia and to thank our troops for rescuing the U.S. forces," he said.

Asked what were his views of the reports that more Americans were regarding Asia now as an important place, Dr. Mahathir said it all depended on the reasons the Americans were doing so.

"If it was merely in order to have a share of the economy, dynamism, and market potential, I think that would be rather narrow.

"They should focus on Asia because the region is an important part of the world and you accept that its people have as much rights as the Americans or Europeans and not regard Asia as some rather strange group of people who have values and culture which are different which you think should be converted to your own values and system," he said.

Asked whether there was a major difference between the attitude of the Clinton and Bush administrations, Dr. Mahathir said there was some difference.

"Still the difference is not big enough. The present administration is still thinking of security threats, implying that China is about to go to war with us, Malaysia.

"We don't look at China as a potential enemy. We look at China as a country that has great potential to become an economuc power and with greater wealth. I am quite sure they will spend some money to upgrade their military which is normal in any country."

Asked on his views on the American condemnation of China, Dr. Mahathir said: "Now I have become especially cynical. By comparison to what the Serbs are doing to the Bosnians, the Chinese can be regarded as almost gentle.

"And yet the criticism against China is out of proportion and the unwillingness to do anything about the Serbs who cut people's throats and rape women makes nonsense of the U.S. claims that they are concerned about human rights," Dr. Mahathir said.

Singapore

Article Views Achievements at APEC Summit

BK2211114593 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 22 Nov 93 p 20

[By regional analysis editor Yang Razali Kassim from Seattle]

[Text] The United States, after years of Eurocentricism, suddenly woke up to the idea of an economically powerful Asia. And President Bill Clinton wanting to come to grips with this new reality, called for a high-level meeting of Asia Pacific leaders.

The result? The first-ever summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in Seattle.

After the summit last Saturday, Mr. Clinton faced the press, flanked by more than a dozen heads of government whose dynamic economies collectively produce half of the world's economic output.

The leaders represented three of the world's major economic players, the U.S., Japan, and China, as well as the fast growing tiger economies of North-east and South-east Asia, and the industrialised economies of Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

These countries, some still locked in economic or ideological disputes, met to thrash out ways to work together in the run-up to the 21st century. And they have agreed to meet again in Jakarta next year.

The significance of this is obvious. The world's most economically productive region has discovered a new high-level policy-making forum. As the leaders said in their vision statement, a "new voice" has emerged that "we play an important role in the global economy", leading the way on economic growth and expansion.

The sceptics had said the Seattle meeting would be little more than a photo-opportunity of global proportions, long on symbolism and short on substance.

The sceptics appear to have been proved wrong: Seattle saw as much substance as symbolism.

The leaders took a common position to prop up a system that means a lot to many APEC members—the free trading system under GATT, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. They signalled a determination to act collectively to complete the Uruguay Round of negotiations, a signal to Europe that APEC could be a major counterweight if the Europeans fail to play ball on freer trade.

The leaders also agreed on the future shape of the Asia Pacific—a region united, not divided, whose economies are open, not closed; that wants to be harmonious, not fractious. And they: - agreed to convene a meeting of APEC finance ministers; - asked business leaders to establish a Pacific Business Forum to help facilitate freer trade and better investment flows; and - agreed to set up an APEC Business Volunteer Programme and an APEC Education Programme to develop regional cooperation in higher education.

For a summit that was supposed to be informal, these were major steps forward. An awful lot was done in just 48 hours of a first encounter.

The U.S., by putting this summit together, has driven home one significant point: It can, if it wants, still assert itself as President Clinton has demonstrated vision and the strength to turn that vision into reality, and he has joined the ranks of world leaders.

The basis has now been laid for a cooperative partnership between East and West. There is now a better chance of avoiding confrontations between two major poles on the Pacific Rim.

And those who see their future tied to the benevolent protection of the U.S., whether in terms of markets or of security, can thank the APEC summiteers for helping to secure this.

But for whatever good has come out of the meeting, the Seattle summit has also shown up how assertive the U.S. can be as a big power.

The American flirtation with Asia is a new thing. Seattle happened because the U.S. made it happen. Before this, APEC was comfortable enough as a slow-paced, loose consultative forum. Will APEC now move forward to the rhythm of Washington? Will APEC be a US-dominated group?

This was the fear of some Asian leaders before Seattle, and for all the good feelings at Seattle, the threat of U.S. dominance has now been totally dispelled. Much will depend or how the U.S. conducts itself.

The U.S. can help everyone by being magnanimous. The American way is not necessarily the best, nor is it the only way. It will be helpful if the West, and the U.S. in particular concedes that Asia can teach as much as it can learn from the West.

It is symbolically important that the next APEC summit will be in Asia, and in a country steeped in the Asian way of doing things—Indonesia. This will be the time for Asia to give the evolving Asia-Pacific community it own stamp.

Cambodia

Khieu Samphan Responds to Sihanouk's Message

BK2311032293 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Khieu Samphan "Telegram" to King Norodom Sihanouk; dated 20 November—read by announcer]

[Text] With respect to His Majesty King Sihanouk Varaman, king of the Kingdom of Cambodia [words indistinct].

Your Majesty: First of all, on behalf of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], I would like to beg to inform your majesty that we miss you and the queen very much.

We have received your message dated 17 November informing the venerable monks and our nation and people throughout the Kingdom of Cambodia of your health. In it you advise all people, your children and grandchildren, to continue efforts to unify the entire national forces. This is the essential condition for the

Cambodian nation and race to progres toward resolving all national problems—small, medium, and big—that confront all our people and to ensure peace, stability, and the perpetuity of our Kingdom of Cambodia. In other words, this is to enable our Kingdom of Cambodia to survive forever as an independent country, with the territorial integrity that is worthy of a nation and people who were known to have had a glorious history and who are the descendants of Angkorian Cambodians.

We give the highest respect to your majesty's valuable and excellent advice that reflects your continuing concern about the fate and future of our entire Cambodian nation, race, and people. Your concern reflects your worthiness as the great leader who upholds the national salvation banner to lead the entire Cambodian nation and people toward national reconciliation and unification so that our Cambodia can fully enjoy happiness, peace, and stability.

As before, I have advised that the essence of your majesty's message be broadcast over radio for our monks and people. This is so that they will be informed of this valuable advice and of the need for the king to be away from the nation and motherland until May or June for medical treatment till he is permanently cured.

I would like to beg to express best wishes to you. May your majesty quickly recover and regain good health so as to be able to fulfill your royal mission to realize your policy of national reconciliation and unification for all national forces throughout the Kingdom of Cambodia and to lead your children and grandchildren, male and female and young and old alike, to jointly restore and rebuild an independent and unified Cambodia to make it as prosperous and glorious as in the time of Sangkum Reas Niyum [Sihanouk's pre-1970 ruling party].

Also on this occasion, I would like to extend best wishes to the esteemed queen.

I comply with your idea of allowing His Excellency [H.E.] Chan Youran to remain as ambassador to the PRC representing the king until there is a change.

H.E. Chan Youran and his wife, as your majesty and the queen know well, are happy to serve their majesties sincerely and wholeheartedly, especially under the present circumstances when your majesty is receiving medical treatment in Beijing.

I shall be very happy to call on you and to see your face and meet the queen again in Beijing after 20 December 1993.

Please forgive any inappropriateness.

[Dated] 20 November 1993

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, head of the PDK

250,000 Tonnes of Rice Aid Said Needed

BK2111072693 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0408 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Summary] Phnom Penh 20 Nov (AKP)—Owing to the consequences of war, "Cambodia needs food aid and the deficit will be 250,000 tonnes of husked rice in 1993," said Agriculture Minister Kong Sam-ol upon the opening of a workshop on "the reflection on agricultural development in Cambodia" organized by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations in Phnom Penh recently.

Drought occurring between July and August each year and early cessation of rain falls, he added, also have a negative effect on rice production. The agriculture minister further said that Cambodia's poorly fertile soil equally contributes to the low yield of rice crops. Should farm land be enriched with the utilization of manures, it is necessary to conduct important research and encourage farmers to use the natural fertilizers. It is true that chemical fertilizers produce spectacular harvests, but it is impossible for us to import thousands of tonnes of this plant food each year without resorting to the help of aid donors.

Prospect for Compromise With Khmer Rouge Viewed

BK2011130993 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Article from REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA: "Durable Peace and the Price That Should Be Paid"]

[Text] Reports of a proposal made by Democratic Kampuchea [DK] to remove Samdech Chea Sim from the National Assembly chairmanship and Hun Sen, Sar Kheng, and Tie Banh from the Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC] were heard at the same time the Thai National Assembly chairman handed a letter to Samdech Chea Sim inviting him to visit Bangkok. Recently, the Royal Thai Government appeared to have changed its stance slightly on the Khmer Rouge issue. Should Thailand continue to shift its stance, complicated problems could be solved in the twinkling of an eye.

DK Spokesman Mak Ben, currently staying in Phnom Penh, has said that his group wants only to achieve national unification and that no prerequisites should be discussed before a meeting is held. And lately, the Khmer Rouge group has announced a change in its position; that is, it recognizes the RGC. Nevertheless, it has not yet talked about the issue of the Pailin region or the issue of handing over its forces to the Khmer Royal Armed Forces, which actually represent the last two main conditions.

Previously, both the RGC and the Khmer Rouge imposed serious conditions on each other for the convening of a roundtable meeting. Somehow, the impossibility of holding a roundtable meeting in mid-November is neither a failure nor pessimism, because the RGC and the Khmer Rouge have all shown their willingness to end their conflicts peacefully. But what cannot be settled at this point in time is the price to be paid.

The RGC, born from the people's wishes via elections and legally representing Cambodia, has considered the Khmer Rouge problem unimportant. As for the Khmer Rouge group, this week it has stepped up its activities for the purpose of showing people that its problem is a serious and priority issue. Anyway, what price will the legally recognized party and the party regarded as rebels agree to pay for the sake of the nation's interests? Nobody knows whether the time is ripe. People remember that before the elections Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh said that if his party won, he would settle the Khmer Rouge problem peacefully based on national reconciliation. So far, however, this complicated problem remains unresolved. Is this the fault of the Khmer Rouge, whose conditions are too harsh?

In fact, to solve the problem, there are only two key options that remain in the hands of the Royal Thai Government and the RGC. If the Thai Government immediately halts its secret and open contacts with the Khmer Rouge group, the latter would certainly lose its firm backing. And at the same time, the RGC should speedily codify immigration laws to solve the problem of foreigners living illegally in Cambodia, thereby preventing the Khmer Rouge from hurling further accusations.

There is an argument that Khmer Rouge influence can be curbed by promoting rural development and that a military approach can only increase instability, thereby intensifying the war and making a solution impossible. If the war were to become a civil war, it would elevate the honor of the Khmer Rouge, whom the RGC regards as rebels.

At present, political observers are of the opinion that Democratic Kampuchea used poor strategy when it strived to separate the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC] Party from the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], particularly when it put forth its recent proposal to remove the four important CPP leaders from their state positions. Only a few people have endorsed this proposal because it is against the law and the peace plan formulated by the king of Cambodia. Some political analysts think that the move is Democratic Kampuchea's furious and spontaneous opposition to the Thai invitation for Samdech Chea Sim to visit Bangkok. If the invitation is accepted immediately, it means the Khmer Rouge group put itself in a more difficult position than before. It does not mean that it is in a completely difficult situation, however, because it has always been supported and assisted by the Thai Army.

A recent statement issued by Thai Commander in Chief Wimon Wongwanit said that if the RGC categorically declared the Khmer Rouge to be outlaws, Thailand would respect the decision. This statement constitutes full support for Democratic Kampuchea, whose representatives are currently in Phnom Penh. Thailand has thrown the ball to the RGC while the Khmer Rouge group has already taken a step forward. So now it is up to the RGC to decide what to do. Should conditions be further imposed on Cambodians to prolong the current situation, or should military means be used to fight Democratic Kampuchea?

Can Cambodian politicians find a compromise for the sake of their own honor and a durable Cambodian peace?

Sar Kheng Described as Most Powerful Figure

BK2311092793 Phnom Penh PHNOM PENH POST in English 19 Nov-2 Dec 93 pp 1, 2

["New Govt: Who's Really in Control?"—by Nate Thayer]

[Text] When scores of opposition party figures were systematically gunned down prior to the elections, the U.N. accused the ruling Cambodian People's Party [CPP] of controlling the death squads. And when the CPP lost the election, their leaders mounted an armed secession in the eastern half of the country refusing to hand over power.

The glow of the elections has long faded, the U.N. has gone, the transition period over, and, with muted pomp, a new government was formed earlier this month. But many analysts say that when the smoke clears and the rhetoric subsides, those in real power in Cambodia may remain the same CPP leaders who lost the U.N. organized elections.

Despite the U.N. leaders self-congratulatory applause of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] as a "model" for the future missions, the election results have become only one of the influences that will decide the new government.

The entrenched old methods of power politics—intimidation, the threat of violence, factional power bases, and the control of armed forces, security apparatus, and rank and file bureaucracy—will remain the dominant forces determining who comes out in control of the new government in coming months.

FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] has emerged with the key portfolios of the Prime Minister's office, Foreign Affairs, and Finance, while the CPP has the 2nd Prime Ministership, key positions in the Council of Ministers, Commerce, Agriculture, and the head of the National Assembly.

On paper the two parties share the leadership of the Interior and Defense Ministries. The BLDP [Buddhist

Liberal Democratic Party] has been given the Information portfolio in a compromise between the two larger parties.

But analysts say that in itself, the leadership of these ministries represents only the veneer of power and control. They say the traditions of real power in Cambodia are rooted in control of the armed forces, security apparatus, state bureaucracy and, importantly, the provincial political structures which control police, armed forces, tax collection, and civil service.

These areas remain under the control of the CPP and respond to political loyalties before central authority, analysts say.

FUNCINPEC officials say that such an analysis is premature since they only just assumed office, and that they did not have the authority during the transitional government to undertake serious efforts to take control of the ministries they were awarded.

"We will introduce FUNCINPEC cadre to all levels of ministries," Economics and Finance Minister Sam Rangsi said, arguing that many CPP cadre actually voted for his party.

"The CPP knows they are fighting a rear-guard action (to maintain loyalty). They know the trend is not for the CPP. The trend is for democracy. The development of the country means political transparency and that is against the CPP interests," he added.

Others were more pessimistic. "They (FUNCINPEC) control their offices, their cars, but they do not control the bureaucracy," said one official close to Sihanouk.

"The official titles are just theater—a cinema," said another source close to Sihanouk. "Inside, the roots of the CPP are too deep, mainly the Sar Kheng/Chea Sim people. The administrative structure has been maintained, the military status quo and the administrative status quo. Not 100 percent but 90 percent. Only 10 percent will be fulfilled by FUNCINPEC," he said.

Observers point to the Foreign Ministry as an example of the difficulties FUNCINPEC has faced in assuming real control of the ministries they have been awarded. FUNCINPEC sources say that only two of their officials have been appointed to the ministry since they assumed control more than three months ago—the Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut and an assistant secretary of state.

Rangsi admitted that having the central government gain control of the provincial apparatus, where 80 percent of the population reside, will be difficult. He cited "defacto autonomy of the provinces. We have had neither the time nor the political means to bring the provinces under central control, otherwise there would have been chaos".

Rangsi said, "central authority has very little knowledge—not even to speak of control—but knowledge of the provinces."

Cambodia's provinces are controlled by a governor, who's real authority comes from the all-powerful provincial Party apparatus he also heads. He traditionally controls armed forces, police and security services, the bureaucracy, and taxation. Governors report to the party, not the state. In the provinces the CPP structure remains wholly intact, giving enormous national power to people such as Sar Kheng.

Sar Kheng, analysts agree, is emerging as one of the single most powerful personalities in the new government.

Made one of two vice prime ministers, Sar Kheng also maintains his position as minister of Interior. But it is his role in the CPP party structure that has given him the influence that he wields.

His biography mirrors many who remain powerful in the new royal government. Born in 1951 in Prey Veng Province to a father active in the revolutionary Issarak movement, he joined the revolution on the day of the Lon Nol coup in 1970 (according to his official biography, although it is believed he was active prior to this) and steadily rose up the Khmer Rouge ranks. He survived purges of his superiors in 1976, working in propaganda organs in the north-east and east under the Khmer Rouge and joined the resistance against Pol Pot's leadership in May 1978.

After the Vietnamese invasion he served as secretary to then party head Pen Sovan, before Sovan himself was purged and arrested by the Vietnamese in 1982. Sar Kheng rose quickly, serving in key organizational party posts, elected to the Central Committee in 1984, the Politburo in 1988, and in 1990 was given one of the most powerful positions in a communist structure—president of the party's Commission for Organization. His brother-in-law is Chea Sim.

As head of party organization, Sar Kheng approved all appointments to party posts, including provincial governorships and scores of other key positions of influence in state organs.

When the Paris Peace Accords required the CPP to remove direct party control over the components of government, Sar Kheng assumed the position of minister of Interior—a rough equivalent of the party's organization portfolio, because of it's supremacy over the nationwide bureaucracy. Much of the new government's civil servants—at least indirectly—owe him their jobs from when the Party was in charge of approving appointments.

With Chea Sim in charge of the National Assembly (a post he retains from the 1980s when Cambodia was a one-party state) and Sar Kheng in charge of the Interior Ministry, they wield enormous power with the security services, the legislative body and the provincial authorities.

CPP intellectuals are largely allied with Hun Sen, who controls the other faction within the CPP. In the new cabinet line-up, all except a handful of senior CPP officials are Hun Sen loyalists, observers say.

As a result, Sar Kheng has begun to attract and recruit a number of intellectuals to policy positions.

A number of senior officials of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] (formerly the armed wing of the KPNLF) are expected to hold positions with Sar Kheng.

Analysts say that after a poor showing in the elections, the LDP leaders need patrons to protect them, and the Sar Kheng/Chea Sim faction—largely controlled by former peasant revolutionaries—needs intellectuals to give them legitimacy and help them adjust to a more complicated political diplomacy.

The KPNLF attracted a number of savvy, educated technocrats to their guerrilla movement in the 1980s. The former chief of cabinet for the LDP, Ok Sereisopheak, has been offered the job of Chief of Staff to Sar Kheng in his new job of deputy prime minister. Sopheak is widely respected as a bright knowledgeable politician and administrator and has broad experience with western governments—exactly what the CPP faction lacks.

But analysts say the alliance is a logical one as well. Many KPNLF intellectuals remain deeply suspicious, as do the CPP, of a powerful monarchy with control over political decisions.

"It is a coincidence of interests," says one senior KPNLF official. Another said it offers a healthy "checks and balance" to the rise of royalist influence. Diplomats say that Sar Kheng and Chea Sim remain more suspicious of a powerful monarchy than Hun Sen.

As an indication of the rising star of Sar Kheng, the Post has learned he has been invited on an official visit to the U.S. in coming weeks. The trip is designed to expose Sar Kheng to the mechanics of democracy and political pluralism, and will include an itinerary largely designed by Sar Kheng himself.

Sources say that one of the purposes of the trip is to wean him away from the influence of Vietnam, his patron during the last 14 years.

Diplomats say that it appears Hun Sen and his faction are declining in influence, with much of the role they played in the old government—of a moderate face acceptable to the West—having been co-opted by FUNCINPEC in the new government.

"Hun Sen knows that the Chea Sim group and FUNCINPEC want to eliminate him. He is weak, but still has real power," said one senior official of the new government. Cautioned a diplomat: "Don't underestimate him."

Some cite the appointment of Son Soubert to the vice presidency of the National Assembly as proof that Hun Sen still maintains influence. While Chea Sim supported the appointment and Hun Sen opposed it, Chea Sim could only deliver 11 CPP votes on the first attempt. It was only after Sihanouk intervened that Soubert was approved, according to sources close to the debate.

During the elections many of the hard-line party operatives (mostly loyal to Chea Sim and Sar Kheng) were replaced on the ballot by CPP technocrats and moderates (mostly loyal to Hun Sen) to give the CPP a more gentle reform image. As a result, the CPP assembly is disproportionately composed of Hun Sen loyalists.

The only people who appear to be happy about all this potential for instability in the new government is the Party of Democratic Kampuchea—the Khmer Rouge. Khmer Rouge sources say that despite the widely-held belief that they are terminally ill as a political force in Cambodia, they remain confident that the new government will collapse under the pressure of internal conflicts. They predict an increase in corruption and say a declining economic state in the rural areas will undermine popular support for the new government after an initial political "honeymoon" of several months.

Their mood is "confident" and their strategy is to maintain control over their forces, encourage instability in the countryside, exploit discontent among FUNCINPEC cadre, and wait for an opportunity to seek a greater role in a future administration.

Sources say that King Sihanouk keeps direct contact with the Khmer Rouge and remains convinced they should be brought into some power-sharing role for the sake of long-term stability.

Sources point to Sihanouk's recent decision to appoint Khmer Rouge senior diplomats to his personal cabinet in Beijing as an indication of his sentiment towards the group.

While it is much too early to predict which political trends will prevail, it is increasingly clear that the elections served largely as a tactic to the parties in the 14 year war for control of Cambodia.

While analysts agree that the elections bestowed a vital legitimacy of popular support on FUNCINPEC, which forced the CPP to bow deeply to popular will, the fundamental means of how power is achieved, maintained and protected remains consistent with those in modern Cambodian political culture.

The parties in these weak alliances of convenience between parties with fundamental—even irreconcilable—differences are poised to attack each other at the first sign of weakness.

It all promises months, if not years, of further low level conflict.

Ranariddh: Khmer Rouge Hinder Government Talks

BK2211142393 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister, has accused the Khmer Rouge group of hindering talks with the government by demanding the expulsion of leaders known to be from the Cambodian People's Party [CPP]. The Khmer Rouge group has repeatedly called for a meeting with the royal government to discuss the administration of the 20 percent of territory it controls and its 9,000-strong army in exchange for an advisory role with the royal government.

Despite this, this group has accused the royal government, which comprises members from the CPP, of being Vietnam's puppet. The royal government has refused and rejected a meeting with the Khmer Rouge group as long as this group refuses to recognize the government and to stop its attacks on government forces and innocent people.

An issue worth noting is that the Khmer Rouge's clandestine radio has announced the softening of its attitude to move toward a roundtable meeting. In a statement this radical group says that it no longer opposes the inclusion of rivals from the CPP, who administered the country before the signing of the Paris agreement and during the period following the election.

Talking to [words indistinct], the spokesman of the royal government says that if the Khmer Rouge group has really softened its stance and has the intention of really recognizing the royal government, it has to take (?the first step) toward the roundtable talks.

Along with such a statement, the Khmer Rouge group continues attacks on many areas controlled by the royal government in the northern part of the country. Among these attacks and various subversive activities were the laying of mines to destroy small bridges in the northwest and attacks on the royal government's troops in the south. The Khmer Rouge group also robbed people's cattle, paddy, and rice in many villages.

In the latest attack at the end of the past week, about 30 Khmer Rouge bandits attacked and robbed a village north of Preah Vihear Province. They stole cattle, burned 12 houses, and destroyed 13 tonnes of paddy and rice. Another group of bandits attacked other villages near Siem Reap Province, killing 13 persons before retreating and also taking away domestic animals and many oxcarts.

Hun Sen Says Door Still Open to Khmer Rouge

BK2311064493 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, second prime minister, has said that the royal government has not closed the door for the Khmer Rouge to rejoin the national community. However, to return to the national community, the Maoist opposition group must fulfill a number of conditions proposed by the royal government. These conditions put forth by the royal government include the handing over of all territories under the control of the extremists, the halt to antigovernment propaganda, and the recognition of the royal government elected legally with the democratic system.

Concerning the proposal for roundtable talks that have been stalled several times, H.E. Hun Sen said the royal government hardly believes that the Khmer Rouge will accept the government's conditions. However, it will continue to use all means to prevent the war from being prolonged. The royal government cannot ignore Khmer Rouge attacks against innocent people. Last week it stressed that the Khmer Rouge no longer constituted an important issue. Instead, the most important issues are the restoration and reconstruction of the nation as well as internal security and agriculture.

Over 2,500 Khmer Rouge soldiers have defected to the royal government since the promulgation of the Constitution and His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk's return to the throne. Many rebels hiding in the cities have ceased their meaningless struggle. Meanwhile, the Khmer Royal Armed Forces have continued their psychological warfare against the Khmer Rouge by distributing leaflets to persuade Khmer Rouge elements to return to the national community.

Military Activities Reported for 7-16 Nov

BK2011162093 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] According to the Third Department of the Khmer Royal Armed Forces [KRAF] General Staff, about 50 members of the Democratic Kampuchea [DK] armed forces launched an attack on our position 21 km southeast of Sot Nikom District in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province on 14 November, but were repulsed by the KRAF in that area.

In Banteay Meanchey Province, 400 DK troops were sent from Pailin to set up camp in an area 6 km southeast of Koup village in Poipet region, and 300 others were sent to an area 15 km south of Bo village in preparation for attacks on our positions.

In Kompong Thom Province, a group of DK forces attacked Tang Krasang market in Santuk District on 13 November, killing a policeman. On 15 November, DK forces transported three ox carts and a tractor full of ammunition to store in an area 21 km north of Stoung District seat in preparation for an offensive against the 40th Regiment of the 4th Division.

In Kratie Province, DK soldiers from the 616th and 802d Divisions launched attacks on 13 November on an area 23 km north of Chhlong District, but they were repulsed and forced to retreat by our forces.

In Kampot Province, on 16 November a group of DK forces arrested five foreign journalists seeking information at the Vat Sre Chea monastery 7 km south of Dang Tong District. They took the journalists' car and belongings and released them.

In Preah Vihear Province, on 14 November about 30 DK soldiers robbed people in (?Rumdaoh) village, 4 km south of Choam Khsan District, taking away 13 cows and burning 12 houses and 13 metric tons of rice.

Dear listeners, the source also stressed that in exercising their right to self-defense in the areas bordering Kompong Cham, Kompong Thom, and Kratie Province between 7 and 15 November, the coordinated KRAF units of Kompong Cham-Kompong-Thom-Kratie-Svay Rieng operational region (?and the regiments) under the 2d Military Region smashed the headquarters of the DK 417th Division on the border between Chamka Leu and Santuk District and the headquarters of the 920th Division on the border between (?Prek Prasap), Stoeng Trang, and Santuk Districts, and took control of Tuol Sambo and A'reak Tnaot villages. They killed a total of eight DK soldiers; captured 10 others; welcomed 49 defectors; seized 86 weapons; burned down (?24) camps; and seized two boats, two motor vessels, a rice milling machine, a bulldozer, eight cows, and a quantity of war materiel. The remaining DK forces fled to the foot of Chi Mountain. On 13 November, the KRAF in Preah Vihear Province conducted self-defense activities in an area 20 km east of Chey Sen District. They killed four DK soldiers and seized a weapon.

Indonesia

Commentaries Hail APEC Achievements, Goals

'Forum for Consultation,' Dialogue

BK2311041793 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Upholding the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, APEC, as a forum for consultation and dialogue in settling a variety of economic issues, including trade and investment, forms an important part of the APEC summit decision at Blake Island.

President Bill Clinton's previous statement, in which he stated the desire for a new Asia-Pacific community, created apprehension among observers that APEC would finally dissolve into a new trade bloc similar to the European Economic Community and NAFTA—the latter which groups the United States, Canada and Mexico. The U.S. Congress had recently endorsed NAFTA.

Another apprehension was that the regional ASEAN group would possibly deteriorate. The group's undertakings are mostly focused on economic, trade and investment issues among the six Southeast Asian countries. Undoubtedly, statements made by the group would be directed entirely at the APEC summit.

Even though the Seattle summit could be considered an informal summit, the 17 influential heads of state, who were more concerned over global economic stability during the upcoming 21st century, unamimously agreed that economic activities in the Asia-Pacific region would definitely remain open. They also unanimously agreed that APEC could possibly provide a breakthrough for the stalled Uruguay Round of talks within the GATT framework. The basic factors called for the prevention of further confrontation between the strong economic groups and their weaker counterparts. This points to the concurrence that the small- and medium-scale trade groups form part of the equilibrium for a more stable national, regional and global economic situation.

Cooperation among all the industrial groups should be perpetually encouraged through political means by all governments affiliated in APEC. Strong cooperation among all the industrial groups is what we hope for in trying to abolish protectionism—whether the latter is open or disguised. When such a measure is addressed through a consistent policy, we would then be able to say that APEC had not only created a liberal trading system but, more importantly, had produced a conducive and democratic climate for cooperation in economy, trade and investments.

The member countries in the Uruguay Round should heed the achievements made by APEC in its just-concluded summit.

It is hoped that with Indonesia's inclusion in APEC—and as the leader of the Nonaligned Movement who will host the APEC summit next year—it could further foster a more balanced cooperation between the progressive industrialized nations and the developing nations. From the very beginning, Indonesia, through APEC, was determined to solve the stalled Uruguay Round of talks and to seek a just solution and conclusion. It is also pursuing healthier and more open North-South cooperation for the sake of creating a new world order and enhanced global economic stability in the post-Cold War era.

Dailies Comment on Outcome

BK2211122193 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 22 Nov 93

[From the press review]

[Text] BERITA YUDHA says that Indonesia's inclusion in the Asia-Pacific Economic forum, APEC, is to further enhance global cooperation. (?Even though) Indonesia desires the implementation of free trade in an effort toward eradicating protectionism, the country should not be fully immersed in economic cooperation alone but should also consider seriously the type of cooperation in APEC. For the developing nations, it has become an open secret that in technological cooperation, the developed nations have yet to fully embark on the desired transfer of technology. As such, it would be appropriate for Indonesia to act accordingly in acknowledging APEC. According to this daily, Indonesia should be independent and courageous in expressing its disagreements with or criticisms of those who conform to certain issues.

Meanwhile, PELITA writes on issues that should be (?stressed) from the outcome of the APEC summit, including regarding the agreements reached between small-scale and medium-scale enterpreneurs. Such an issue is considered an effective basis for economy within the framework of further improving the national economy of the respective countries. According to PELITA, the agreements are considered timely and in alignment with Indonesia's decision regarding national development—to give priority to uplifting the small and medium-scale enterpreneurs and in ensuring equal distribution of wealth and stability for the people. Along with this, we should welcome the agreements reached on investments for the future generations through the (?establishment) of programs by APEC in paving the way toward greater cooperation among higher educational organizations.

Jakarta's 1994 APEC Chairmanship Discussed

BK2311090993 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 23 Nov 93

[From the press review]

[Text] SUARA KARYA says the Asia-Pacific era is moving rapidly. As a whole, the economic profile of APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] has encompassed the various different interests of its members. APEC's outward-looking economic profile seems to be free from the political strings of each member. In this context, SUARA KARYA says the selection of Indonesia as the venue of the APEC summit in 1994 is both an honor and responsibility for the country. This is something that cannot be taken for granted. Thus, Indonesia must closely monitor the development of APEC.

In the meantime, ANGKATAN BERSERNJATA says President Suharto is to simultaneously chair two main international organizations—the Nonaligned Movement and APEC—following the conclusion of the Seattle summit. Although the two organizations are different in scope, they have an identical goal, that is, to enhance mutually advantageous international economic cooperation. According to ANGKATAN BERSENJATA, the two organizations have no conflicts. On the contrary, they are supporting each other. Thus, President Suharto can simulatanously chair the Nonaligned Movement and APEC.

Envoy Criticizes Australian Human Rights Report

BK2011082893 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] The Australian Parliament's reaction to human rights in Indonesia is excessive and will not be conducive to maintaining the current good bilateral relations. This assessment was made by Indonesian Ambassador to Australia Sabam Siagian in Canberra this morning following a report by the Australian Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade on Australian-Indonesian relations over the past three years.

According to Ambassador Sabam Siagian, the Australian Parliament's reaction to human rights in Indonesia demonstrated Australia's arrogance. This attitude is incompatible with Asian culture in general and Indonesian culture in particular. Thus, Canberra will have to understand this matter if they want to make themselves part of the Asian community in the future.

Nevertheless, he admitted that a number of the Australian Parliament recommendations were quite positive and well balanced, while some others, including one on human rights violations, were disproportionate.

Minister Views Outcome of PNG Border Talks

BK1711121193 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 17 Nov 93

[Text] Home Affairs Minister Yogie S.M., who led the Indonesian delegation to the 12th session of the Indonesian-Papua New Guinea Joint Border Committee, arrived at Jayapura's Sentani Airport this afternoon on his way back to Jakarta from Rabaul, Papua New Guinea (PNG). Jayapura Radio Republik Indonesia correspondent Steve Dumpeng was at Sentani Airport when the minister gave a news conference:

[Begin recording] [Dumpeng] Home Affairs Minister Yogie S.M. and his wife arrived at Jayapura's Sentani Aiport this afternoon on his way back to Jakarta from Rabaul, PNG, after he attended the 12th Joint Border Committee meeting. Speaking to reporters, the minister said the meeting had produced a 10-point memorandum of understanding, arrangement, and joint (?action). The meeting discussed several economic and trade issues, the promotion of sociocultural activities in the two countries, ways to cope with the smuggling of marijuana along the common border, and the implementation of a civic mission program involving the two countries' armed forces personnel.

[Yogie] Indonesian Defense and Security Minister Edi Sudrajat invited his PNG counterpart to visit Jakarta to hold further discussions on the implementation of the civic mission program. [sentence indistinct]

[Dumpeng] Meanwhile, PNG Defense Minister Paul Tohian asked the Indonesian Armed Forces to help train PNG military personnel in Indonesia. [end recording]

After the stopover, Home Affairs Minister Yogie S.M. and his entourage left Jayapura for Jakarta this afternoon.

Laos

Talks Held With SRV Ethnic Minorities Group

BK2211150193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Vongphet Saikeuyachongtoua, vice chairman of the National Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and chief of the National Assembly's Ethnic Minorities Affairs Commission, held talks with the delegation of the Ethnic Minorities and Mountain Regions Commission of the SRV National Assembly led by its chairman (?Hoang Duc Nghi), at the National Assembly Hall in Vientiane on the morning of 22 November.

The talks between the two delegations were aimed at exchanging views and consulting with each other on the strengthening of cooperation between the legislative organizations of Laos and Vietnam, especially the ethnic minorities work of the two houses. At the same time, the two sides also informed each other of the domestic situation of each country regarding the implementation of the party's and state's policies of restructuring and socioeconomic development and the implementation of their minorities policies.

The delegation of the SRV National Assembly's Ethnic Minorities Commission arrived in Vientiane on 21 November to pay an eight-day visit to Laos. In addition to meeting and exchanging views the Lao sectors concerned, during its stay here the delegation will also visit many social, economic, and cultural establishments in Vientiane Municipality, Vientiane Province, and (?many other) provinces.

More Refugees Return Home From Thailand

BK2011082793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] On 16 November, forty families of 152 Lao refugees returned to their native villages—the 12th batch of refugees to return home this year through Tha Deua ferry landing, Vientiane Municipality. They were natives of Vientiane, Bolikhamsai, and Xieng Khouang Provinces.

According to Phonsavan Phommadeuang, representative of the labor and social welfare service of Vientiane Municipality, so far 1,930 Lao refugees have returned home from Thailand through Tha Deua ferry landing. All of them have received good care and assistance from the local administration and the UN high commissioner for refugees.

Thongsing Thammavong Outlines Meeting Goals

BK1911150793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Excerpt] Thongsing Thammavong, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee Political Bureau and chief of the LPRP Central Committee Organization Board, gave an interview to reporters on the objectives of the nationwide conference of party units that will be convened between 22 and 26 November. He said the objectives of the conference are: to ensure the implementation of the party's policy of restructuring, especially the building of the party grass roots at all ministries, organizations, and localities; to upgrade and consolidate the party's organizations; and to raise the quality of party members. This is because party units in many localities still remain weak in providing practical leadership to the masses and in translating into practice the party's policies and lines and even their political tasks. Many party units have neglected party activities. As a result, phenomena of negativism have occurred. Therefore, there is an urgent need to conduct a study to find a solution to solve this problem with a view to upgrading and consolidating party units at the grass roots to allow them to effectively carry out their leading roles as leading political cores at the grass-roots level. That is why the LPRP Central Committee Organization Board has summoned party units at all levels to the conference, which will be convened in Vientiane capital from 22 to 26 November, to assess and draw lessons from grass-roots building work. This is to identify both good and weak points, remaining problems, difficulties, and favorable and unfavorable conditions in the party leadership activities in the new period. After that we will be able to define a new direction and contents for the building of party units in the future. [passage omitted]

Philippines

Muslim Rebel Leader Nur Misuari Interviewed

BK2111110793 Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian 6 Nov 93 pp 28, 29

["Excerpts" of interview with Nur Misuari, chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front by TEMPO correspondents Andy Reza Rohadian, Ivan Haris, and Iwan Qodar Himawan in Jakarta—date not given]

[Text] [TEMPO] You seem to be very pessimistic about the prospects for these talks [with the Philippine Government representatives in Jakarta].

[Misuari] I think it is too early to give an evaluation of the talks. We have only agreed to the agenda of the talks. However, being a Muslim, I must take an optimistic view. I believe that Islamic countries, including Indonesia, will persuade the Philippine Government to solve our problem. I am sure Indonesia hopes the talks will bear fruit.

[TEMPO] The two previous talks were not successful. What about the present talks?

[Misuari] I hope the omniscient God will forgive us, but experience shows that unsuccessful talks will be followed by the outbreak of new armed clashes as soon as the Moro people learn the news about it. The clashes will only bring casualties to both parties, namely, the Philippine Government troops and Moro guerrillas.

[TEMPO] But now you are willing to hold talks with Manila.

[Misuari] We have no other option. The Islamic world has pressured us to use peaceful means to solve the problem. Otherwise, our status at the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] will be downgraded to that of an observer.

[TEMPO] What are you especially fighting for in these current talks?

[Misuari] The implementation of the Tripoli Agreement.

[TEMPO] Does it mean that you demand the status of an autonomous region?

[Misuari] Yes. The status of an autonomous region for 13 provinces under a regional head of state appointed by the president. We want political, not just administrative autonomy because administrative autonomy will only make us helpless. Political autonomy will enable us to have our own police force, parliament, and judicial institution for both Muslims and non-Muslims. We also demand autonomy in economic and educational affairs.

[TEMPO] This sounds like a country within a country.

[Misuari] That is right. The Tripoli Agreement stipulates that the central government will be in charge of three things only, namely, currency, national defense, and telecommunications.

[TEMPO] Actually, which one do you prefer, an autonomous region or a free state?

[Misuari] At first, we demanded a free state, but in its resolution, the ICO said the Moro issue must be solved in the Philippine context with the establishment of an autonomous region. We cannot oppose the ICO resolution. If we do, we may be forced to renounce our ICO membership or have our membership downgraded. We really have no option.

[TEMPO] Are Moro people ready to have their own government?

[Misuari] Certainly. As for manpower, God willing, there will be no problem. We have intellectual and professional people like bankers, medical doctors, journalists, and engineers. Thousands of Mindanao citizens have experience in government administration.

[TEMPO] What is your concrete program?

[Misuari] The main program which must be tackled first is the setting up of an autonomous government; after that, preparations for a multiparty general election so as to establish a regional parliament. Such a parliament will appoint an executive institution, religious court, and other institutions.

[TEMPO] But Manuel Yan, the Philippine Government chief delegate, said that the talks will only discuss autonomy in education, economy, and the legal system in Mindanao.

[Misuari] He can say so, but participants of these peace talks are bound by last week's agreement signed in Cipanas, which stipulates that the current talks shoule be based on the Tripoli Agreement.

[TEMPO] There are fears that non-Muslims will face problems once Moro is declared an autonomous region.

[Misuari] While the autonomous government is based on Islamic teachings, the approximately two million non-Muslims will not be forced to embrace the Islamic teachings. The Protestants, Roman Catholics, and followers of other religions will have their own religious laws.

[TEMPO] What kind of Islamic administration do you want to use as an example?

[Misuari] Because of its autonomous status, we can call Moro an Islamic state.

[TEMPO] What do you think of the Philippine Government's current policy, which plans to turn Moro into an economic growth center.

[Misuari] President Ramos has used this as a pretext, as if he wants to upgrade the living standards of the local Muslims. On the contrary, I believe the policy is a colonialistic move which is trying to exploit our economic resources. Our oil and agricultural products will be taken out from Mindanao while the proceeds will go to Manila. As you know, 50,000 barrels of oil are pumped out daily from Mindanao. This amount is small in terms of Indonesian oil export, but for the 15-million population of Mindanao, this is a significant amount.

[TEMPO] What then is your conclusion?

[Misuari] I don't think it is wrong to conclude that Ramos' move indicates his rejection of our demand for an autonomous region. In practice, Ramos' plan will only obstruct the implementation of the Tripoli Agreement.

[TEMPO] Are you sure that war will break out if the talks fail? Are your troops ready for that?

[Misuari] Of course. The local terrain, which is full of rivers, forests, and mountains, is ideal for guerrilla warfare. Before we came here, the Moro soldiers had again proven their great ability when they repulsed the attacks launched by the government troops dispatched to

Mindanao. We annihilated about 180 government troops and destroyed several tanks and helicopters.

[TEMPO] How many troops do you have?

[Misuari] About 21,000. In 1987, when I held talks with President Cory Aquino in Jolo, we used to have 50,000 troops. Many people are unaware that we have many reservist troops who can be mobilized when hostilities break out. Therefore, if war breaks out, the number of our troops will automatically increase.

[TEMPO] In terms of combat capability, can your troops cope with the Philippine Government troops?

[Misuari] The government troops certainly have many areas of superiority, especially in weaponry, but as far as the terrain is concerned, we have the upper hand. Our troops are also known as sharpshooters. This is the reason why even though we have simple weapons, we can control the areas outside the cities. Our fighters have also installed many checkpoints.

[TEMPO] How did you manage to get such a high combat capability?

[Misuari] The Mindanao people seem to have lived from one war to another. We fought against the Spanish and the Dutch for several hundred years. We also fought against the Americans and we have now fought against the Philippine colonialists for more than 40 years.

[TEMPO] Is it true that Libya and other Islamic countries have helped train your troops?

[Misuari] I can neither answer nor comment on this question. What you should know is that our troops have always received regular training. In Jolo island alone, we have 91 training camps.

[TEMPO] Do you have time to supervise the training?

[Misuari] No. The training sessions have been recorded and the recordings are smuggled to my headquarters in Islamabad. It is necessary to upgrade the combat capability. It is useless to hold talks if we do not have military strength.

[TEMPO] Many people have said that your guerrillas receive funds from certain Islamic countries.

[Misuari] We have indeed received foreign assistance, but the amount is very small and the greater part of the funding is raised by our own community members. If we had depended on foreign assistance, our movement would have been dead a long time ago.

[TEMPO] It is said that President Ramos is more flexible than his two predecessors.

[Misuari] I am the person who holds talks with all of them. Marcos, Aquino, and Ramos are no different, namely, they are all colonialists.

Thailand

Paper Examines APEC Disagreement With U.S.

BK2211023793 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Nov 93 p A6

[Article by Kawi Chongkitthawon in Seattle entitled: "The Apec Debate: A Big or Small 'C'?"]

[Text] For certain members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) forum, disagreements over its future are more than skin deep. Apart from the usual different interpretations and connotations, it involves, more than anything, their sovereignty and sense of identity.

China and some ASEAN countries have reacted strongly toward one particular recommendation by the Eminent Persons Group [EPG], which urges the 18-member organization to create a true Asia Pacific Economic Community.

The word "Community" with a big "C" caused a certain amount of consternation and even division among Apec members, throughout the meetings here, both at senior official and ministerial levels. After days of deliberation, the compromise was finally reached at the eleventh hour to dilute the term and turn it into a general reference. In the joint statement by Apec ministers, they agreed to use the lower case "c" in referring to "community."

According to Fred Bergsten, chairman of EPG, the "community" was used in the popular rather than technical sense of the word, to connote simply a like-minded group that aims to remove barriers to economic exchange among its members in the interests of all.

At the working dinner with Apec and business leaders, President Bill Clinton said that the summit meeting will foster a sense of community, which he defined as something "neighbours create when they sit down together over coffee or tea to talk about house repairs or their children's schools...the kind of community that families and friends create when they gather on holidays to rejoice in their common blessings."

These definitions were general and assuring enough to satisfy the Apec members, but fear continues to linger on the future of Apec. However, at the end of Apec informal meeting yesterday, Clinton resorted [to] the word "Asia Pacific Community", which caught the Apec leaders by surprise.

Of all the Apec countries, China has been most paranoid of the EPG's vision. Throughout the meeting and at the press conference, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen reiterated that China treats Apec strictly as a forum for exchanging views on economic cooperation. Qian rejected any interpretation that would change the nature of Apec from a loose consultative forum.

It is understandable. Qian has avoided using the Chinese word that means community. In Chinese, there are many words. For. example, the word "tuandi" literally means an organized unit such as households in the neighbourhood. The Chinese have reasons to be annoyed because if a different Chinese word is used it could connote a different meaning. In general reference, the word "ta-tung-di" or "big same body" or "cong-tung-di" or "common body" is used when it connotes the European Economic Community. In that case, it could mean that Apec is moving toward full economic integration that could jeopardize the culture, social and economic systems in China.

Indeed, China's concern was taken seriously by the EPG. The group has tried to calm down Beijing's fear assuring the Chinese that it was not calling for the creation of an Asia Pacific free trade area when the word "community" is used.

Chinese official said it is a very serious matter, and Apec members had to discuss and agree beforehand what the term "community" precisely meant in the languages of member countries (Chinese, Korean, Indonesian, Japanese, Thai, English).

Quite a few ASEAN' countries think China's fear is legitimate. Other ASEAN countries, especially Indonesia, share China's concerns because in their own languages, different translations from English, especially sensitive terms, mean different things and therefore, commitments.

Apart from the technical aspects, developing countries within Apec do not want the forum to be presented outside as another trading bloc. "We are not pawns in the trans-Atlantic trade war," commented a high-ranking ASEAN delegate. ASEAN still views Europe as an important market and does not want to upset the European Community, which is now locked in trading disputes with the United States.

Now that the Apec leaders have agreed to meet again next year in Indonesia, Asian concerns must be fully addressed and consensus, if any, has to be forged. "The ball is in our court" said an elated Indonesian official.

Saudi Special Envoy Denies Improved Ties

BK2311022593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Nov 93 p A2

[Text] Saudi Arabia's special envoy to Thailand yesterday denied that relations between Bangkok and Riyadh have improved significantly and insisted the key to normalization is major progress in the investigation of the jewellery scandal.

Saudi Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Sa'id Khujah was referring to the alleged embezzlement of jewellery seized from a Thai worker who stole it from a Saudi palace in 1989. The worker was arrested and imprisoned, but Saudi Arabia claims many of the jewels returned by Thai authorities were cheap imitations. Senior police officers are facing trial or investigation in connection with the scam. But Saudi Arabia has expressed frustration over what it described as the slow progress of the probe.

Khujah told THE NATION yesterday that as far as he knew, the relationship between the two countries still depended on the progress of the investigation. He said he was totally unaware of yesterday's report in THE NATION quoting a Foreign Ministry source that Saudi Arabia had made positive gestures to improve soured bilateral relations by ceasing to categorize Thailand an unsafe country and allowing its businessmen to invest here.

Riyadh would also reportedly like to increase the frequency of exchange visits by senior government officials.

The Foreign Ministry's acting spokesman Rawi Hongpraphat confirmed yesterday that Saudi Arabia had indicated positively that bilateral ties with Thailand have improved after three years of tension. Rawi said the improvement can be seen through some more lenient measures Riyadh has adopted where Thais are concerned, but it has not yet officially informed Bangkok about them.

A recent report from the Thai Charge d'affaires in Riyadh, Mahadi Wimana, indicated that Riyadh officials have unofficially informed him that their country no longer considered Thailand an unsafe country.

"Saudi Arabia has also opened up more chances for its business to come to Thailand for investment on a case-by-case basis, unlike in the past when it recommended that they do not come here at all," he said.

Businessmen who are over 30 will find it easy to apply for permission to enter Thailand, the spokesman said.

"Mahadi has assessed from what the Saudi officials told them in recent months that Saudi Arabia saw improvement on the pending cases, and it no longer viewed Thailand as an unsafe place," said Rawi.

At present, there are about 1,000 Thai workers in Saudi Arabia, a sharply reduced number after the Saudi crimes in which four diplomats were shot dead, and a businessman went missing about three years ago.

"However, Saudi Arabia has shown a positive gesture on Thai labour by considering individual applications for the extension of visas, unlike the previous years when Riyadh rejected any application to extend the visas," Rawi added.

The spokesman said Mahadi's report can imply that bilateral relations strained for years are improving.

Commenting on Khujah's statement that bilateral relations are still bad, Ravee said the envoy may not have had a chance to talk to his interior ministry in Riyadh on the reported lenient measures. Khujah, during an interview with REUTER yesterday, showed a videotape which he says was taken at the Police Department.

"It is not my film, it is the police film. It shows three bags of jewellery they retrieved from the thief and displayed at the police department," he said. "They show this jewellery and in the meantime they do not send it to Riyadh.

"Every man-in-the-street knows who holds that jewellery."

Seven policemen, including the chief investigator of the jewellery theft Chalo Koetthet, and three civilians have been charged in court with embezzlement. Ex-police chief Sawat Amonwiwat is facing investigation for having allegedly assisted some of them.

"I am a professional diplomat who came here to overlook the cases," Khujah said. "So far, as the cases are not clarified, relations will not improve whatsoever.

Police Arrest Burmese With Weapons, Explosives

BK2311105693 Hong Kong AFP in English 1036 GMT 23 Nov 93

[Text] BANGKOK, Nov 23 (AFP)—Four Burmese men were arrested here with weapons and explosives and were suspected of planning an attack on Burmese government targets, police said Tuesday.

Police found two hand grenades, one hand gun and explosives when they raided a house in central Bangkok and arrested the four early Tuesday.

Over recent years there have been several bomb attacks on the Burmese embassy here although none has resulted in serious injury or damage.

The four were also charged with immigration offences, police said.

Commerce Minister Uthai Promotes Exports

BK2011051193 Bangkok THAILAND TIMES in English 20 Nov 93 pp A1, A2

[Text] Bangkok—Even before the meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) grouping in Seattle it was apparent that the Commerce Ministry had been sounding out trade opportunities with other Asian countries, including Taiwan.

A recently released report from the Commerce Ministry said that on Wednesday, Minister Uthai Phimchaichon had held discussions with New Zealand's minister of trade, Philip Burdon.

The talks centred on exports from Thailand of tapioca products, vegetables and fruits. Uthai pointed out that Thai tapioca products are suitable as animal feed, and the product is competitively priced. Thailand's tapioca is also suitable for the EC and Japanese market, he said.

The Commerce Minister confirmed that Thai products are disease-free and welcomed inspectors from New Zealand to oversee production.

New Zealand has proposed annual technical quarantine consultations between the two countries. Additionally New Zealand has asked for a reduction on the tax levied against their exports of Kiwi fruit.

Uthai told his New Zealand counterpart that the Finance Ministry is currently reviewing the tax system in Thailand. Uthai added that if the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) were concluded on schedule at the end of this year, Thailand would face a wholesale tax restructuring. During the discussion, both parties agreed to invite Chile, Mexico and Papua New Guinea to join the APEC grouping, adding that after their inclusion the group should not recruit any new members to the forum, but concentrate on strengthening the operation and cooperation among existing members.

The New Zealand trade minister invited Uthai and other high level officials from the public and private sector to visit the South Pacific country in February next year.

Thailand's commerce minister has also met with Roy Maclaren, the trade minister of Canada. Sources say Uthai and his Canadian counterpart discussed the import of steel pipe products and the export to Canada of frozen chicken. Maclaren said that a delegation would soon be visiting Thailand to inspect the chicken farms and processing plants and requested Uthai's assistance, which, if successful, could result in increased exports of the product.

Uthai also reportedly asked the Canadian minister to look into the possibility of reducing import tax on canned tuna, sports shoes, gems and ornaments. Maclaren said all these items would be subject to new tariffs according to the GATT agreement.

Uthai also raised bilateral cooperation with regard to urging CIDA to establish a communications development institute for Thailand. Maclaren confirmed that Canada would be happy to help and has experts in the field who would be made available.

Uthai, speaking about an expansion of trade under the framework of APEC, said that free trade would be good for the region, but he cautioned against any dramatic moves, urging caution in development citing the differing levels of development of the member countries.

Sources said Maclaren agreed with the Thai minister's proposal, adding that he thought the forum was initially established to improve systems in the support of trade, for example the reciprocal customs code.

Taiwan's minister of economic relations, Chaing Ping-Kun, met with Uthai on the 17th of this month and talks centred on the non-tax measures of Taiwan, which is a major stumbling block for exported goods to that country.

Uthai requested favourable tax status on the following products: cassava flour, tapioca pellets and canned fruit juice. He also asked Taiwan to import more rice and fresh fruits. Taiwan said at present the tax reduction system is under consideration in order to comply with GATT rules. Taiwan is applying to become a member of GATT, but first must write off non-tax measures. On the subject of investment, Thailand is to comply with Taiwan's request with incentives for small and medium industries in Thailand.

In addition, Thailand has proposed a joint venture in an animal feed processing plant. The minister also raised a number of questions regarding the control of money remitted for investment in Taiwan.

He said at present the system was being improved in order to make it more convenient than in the past.

Currently investment of not less than U.S.$5 million can be changed and transferred for investment in Taiwan without permission from Taiwan's Economic Relations Ministry. The only document required is a reference.

Government Initiative on East Timor Talks Urged

BK2211022193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Nov 93 p A6

[Editorial: "Thailand as ASEAN Leader Must Negotiate on E. Timor"]

[Text] Indonesia is in illegal occupation of East Timor. The former Southeast Asian Portuguese colony was invaded by the Indonesian armed forces in 1975 and annexed by Jakarta the following year. In 18 years of fighting between the East Timor resistance and the Indonesian army, about 20,000 people (approximately one-third of the island's population) have died from the war, disease or famine.

Since the Indonesian invasion the East Timorese have been subjected to what experts on international law have termed "genocide". Much of the East Timorese peasant population have been driven from their original homes and live in settlements closely monitored by Indonesian troops. A third of the population in East Timor is now immigrant and the Timorese are facing cultural death by demography.

Fertile lands which the Timorese were forced to abandon have been given to Indonesian immigrants. These farmers, as well as a growing number of Indonesian traders and civil servants, are settling down as a relatively privileged class, while the Timorese are becoming increasingly marginalized.

The United Nations does not recognize Indonesian sovereignty over the island, and hence such migration encouraged by Jakarta is illegal.

Indonesian army action in East Timor hit the international spotlight on Nov 12, 1991, when Indonesian soldiers killed about 180 East Timorese demanding independence in the capital of Dili. The security approach currently being pursued by the Indonesian armed forces in East Timor regards every Timorese as a suspect. Central to the strategy being employed is an attempt to thoroughly demoralize the people of East Timor, to destroy their will to oppose integration with Indonesia.

In March, for the first time, the United Nations Human Rights Commission adopted a resolution on the human rights situation in East Timor. The commission has no power to enforce its resolution, but its action served to attract international attention to human rights abuses there.

Indonesia's image has been increasingly soiled internationally, exposing it to a growing number of punitive pressures from its erstwhile supporters. Not only have the Indonesian people and the East Timorese had to suffer many casualties during this ignoble war, but the obstinacy of the military leaders in Jakarta continues to burden the national coffers, adversely affecting the country's development efforts.

The strong stance taken by the US Clinton administration has further increased the already excessively high cost to Indonesia of its East Timor policies.

The US Senate Foreign Relations Committee recently passed unanimously the Feingold amendment to the foreign aid bill linking US arms sales to Indonesia to an improvement in its human rights record in East Timor. The amendment requires the US president to consider with Congress certain criteria before authorizing any arms sales to Indonesia.

These include whether East Timorese jailed in the aftermath of the Dili Massacre in 1991 are being fairly treated; whether the human rights situation is improving; whether humanitarian agencies are receiving better access to the island; whether Jakarta is decreasing military pressure in East Timor; and whether Indonesia is co-operating in UN-sponsored talks with East Timor's former colonial ruler, Portugal.

Talks between Portugal and Indonesia at the UN in New York last December failed to end the stalemate over East Timor. Indonesia insists Portugal abandoned its colony and that the East Timorese have accepted Jakarta's rule.

Consistent with the enhanced peace-making and peace-keeping role of the UN in the post-Cold War world, the leaders of the East Timor Nationalist Resistance umbrella organization have advanced a peace plan to assist the UN Secretary-General's mandate to find a solution to the East Timor conflict.

The peace plan unveiled in Bangkok on Friday night is a three-step, 12-year proposal which would help Indonesia disengage from East Timor with some honour and dignity.

The plan, which has been presented to the UN and Portugal, starts with talks on confidence-building measures including the immediate end to armed conflict in East Timor and reductions in the number of Indonesian troops to no more than 1,000 within six months. The second phase involves political development in East Timor towards autonomy, while the final step is to allow East Timorese to determine their own future.

The East Timorese resistance has called upon Thailand as chairman of ASEAN to offer words of wisdom to a member state. Bangkok should take up this challenge. For the past 18 years ASEAN has allowed the largest member of the regional grouping, Indonesia, to invade a small member of the regional family without voicing a protest.

ASEAN has shown the world that it was able to play an active role in the resolution of the Cambodian conflict. It is time now for the regional grouping to contribute towards peace and justice in East Timor.

Thailand, as current chairman of ASEAN, is in a good position to do this—not only because of its excellent ties with Portugal, but also because a democratically-minded government is in power in Bangkok. Far too many innocent lives have been lost in East Timor and Indonesia must be made to be more flexible in its stand over the disputed island.

Opposition MP Links Attack to Army Rangers

BK2011060193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Nov 93 p A1

[Text] Opposition MP Newin Chitchop suggested yesterday that there could be a link between the Thursday morning grenade attack on his house and a get-together by some 160 Army rangers at a nearby hotel on Thursday evening. Newin produced a copy of an invitation to the gathering of rangers from the Pakthongchai camp in Nakhon Ratchasima at 5 pm on Thursday at the Maruay Garden Hotel, Bang Khen, which is not far from Newin's house in Nonthaburi's Pak Kret district.

Interior Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, a former Army commander-in-chief, founded the Army rangers. Chawalit was lambasted by Newin during last week's censure debate.

Newin said hundreds of protesting rangers from Pakthongchai raided and damaged the house of former prime minister MR Khukrit Pramot several years ago after he harshly criticized Chawalit. Newin said he acquired the copy of the invitation from an Army officer who called on him at his home yesterday.

Interior Minister Chawalit said yesterday he was not disturbed by what he described as a systematic effort by some opposition MPs to create distrust between the New Aspiration and Democrat parties. Chawalit heads the New Aspiration Party. He also advised the media, "don't attach too much importance" to opposition suggestions that someone from the Democrat Party should replace him as interior minister.

Any Cabinet reshuffle would be decided by Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, Chawalit said.

"I can assure you that any attempt to drive a wedge between the New Aspiration and Democrat parties will not succeed. We are strongly united. I must stay [in the portfolio] to ensure political stability to allow the government to continue with its task of serving the people," he said.

On Thursday, Chat Phatthana Secretary-General Prachuap Chaiyasan suggested that the Democrat Party, the biggest partner in the coalition government, make Industry Minister Sanan Khachonprasat interior minister and move Chawalit to another ministry.

Prachuap claimed that Chawalit had not only failed to dispel doubts about his integrity during the Nov 10-11 no-confidence debate but also could not maintain peace and order, citing the attack on Newin's house.

Chawalit said yesterday an initial police report indicated that the attack on Newin's home was not politically motivated.

Asked whether it was the result of a personal conflict, the interior minister said: "No, it's not linked to a personal conflict either. I'm not supposed to say anything now."

Pol Lt Col Damri Sirithamkun, chief investigator of the Pak Kret police station, said yesterday he had already questioned 20 witnesses, including security guards, housemaids and a few people who claimed to have seen the assailants.

Damri said he had yet to question Newin and his wife. He refused to disclose police findings so far.

Police sources said investigators had determined that the two hand grenades landed and exploded close together, about five metres from one of the three houses in the 100 square wah (200 square metres) compound.

The sources said there were more than 10 dogs on the property but no one in the house reported hearing any of them barking before the explosions occurred around 3 am on Thursday. They said the explosions caused slight damage to the property. Only a few window panes were shattered and none of the vehicles in the compound were scratched by shrapnel.

Vietnam

Communist Party Delegation Visits Beijing

BK2211152593 Hanoi VNA in English 1514 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 22—The delegation of Hanoi led by Pham The Duyet, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and secretary of Hanoi's Party Committee has paid a visit to Beijing.

On November 17, the delegation held talks with a delegation of Beijing led by Chen Xitong, Politburo member of the Communist Party of China Central

Committee and secretary of Beijing's party committee. The two sides discussed measures to strengthen the friendly relations and a memorandum of understanding on cooperation between the two capitals in the years to come.

The delegation was received by Premier Li Peng who highly appreciated the result of President Le Duc Anh's recent visit to China and expressed his wish for the success of the renovation cause in Vietnam.

Mr Pham The Duyet on for his part expressed his wish to further consolidation and development of the friendship between Beijing and Hanoi as well as betwee Vietnam and China.

The delegation also visited Guangzhou and Shenzhen.

Singapore's Lee Kwan Yew Concludes Visit

BK2211153193 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 22—Senior Minister of Singapore Lee Kwan Yew and his wife left here yesterday, concluding a five-day working visit to Vietnam.

During his stay here, Senior Minister Lee was received by General Secretary Do Muoi, President Le Duc Anh and Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet. He was also feted by General Secretary Do Muoi and Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet. Mr Lee met and exchanged views with Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai and various ministers and vice ministers of ministries and services concerned, and a number of Vietnamese businessmen on the situation of Vietnam's economic development and the trend for [words indistinct] the world and the region. Earlier, the Singaporean guests visited Ho Chi Minh City and had working sessions with the city's Mayor Truong Tan Sang; chairman of the People's Committee of Dong Nai Province, Huynh Van Binh; and chairman of the People's Committee of Ba Ria-vung Tau Province, Nguyen Minh Ninh on the situation of economic growth in these provinces. Lee called at a number of Vietnam-Singapore economic cooperation establishments.

At these meetings Vietnamese leaders expressed their hope that Senior Minister Lee Kwan Yew's Vietnam visit would contribute to the promotion of the relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Singapore and highly valued Mr. Lee's helpful ideas about the renovation process in Vietnam.

For his part, Senior Minister Lee affirmed that his country is ready and continues to share its experience with Vietnam in the current renovation process. He also exchanged views with Vietnam on orientations of Singapore-Vietnam cooperation and investment in the years to come to further exploit the two countries' potentials, and expressed his belief that the bilateral relations would continue to be developed, thus contributing to the cause of peace, stability and prosperity of the two countries and the region.

Military Delegation Visits Thailand 15-21 Nov

BK2211070593 Hanoi VNA in English 0628 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 22—A delegation of the Vietnamese military institutes and colleges led by Lt. Gen. Nguyen The Bon, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Vietnam People's Army, paid a visit to Thailand from Nov. 15-21 as guest of Gen. Woranat Aphichari, supreme commander of the Thai Royal Army. During its stay in Thailand, the delegation visited the National Defence Study Institute under the supreme command of the Thai Armed Forces, the Infantry Institute, the Air Force Institute, the Navy Institute and other training centres of the Thai Armed Forces. Host and guest were pleased at the results of the visit, thus promoting the friendship and mutual understanding between people and army of the two countries.

Lao Provincial Delegation Visits Hai Hung

BK2011151593 Hanoi VNA in English 1501 GMT 20 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 20—A delegation of Vientiane Province, Laos, led by Mounekeo Oraboun, secretary of the provincial party committee and chairman of the province visited Hai Hung Province from Nov. 14-18.

While in Hai Hung Province, the delegation called at a number of economic establishments, and met with leading officials of Hai Hung Province during which the two sides reviewed the implementation of the cooperative programmes between the two provinces. Chairman of the People's Committee of Hai Hung Province Nguyen Du and Mounekeo Oraboun signed a framework document on their cooperation in the years to come.

Trade Delegation Visits Chile 12-16 Nov

BK2111153393 Hanoi VNA in English 1444 GMT 21 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov 21—An economic and trade delegation of the Vietnamese Government led by Minister of Trade Le Van Triet paid a working visit to Chile from Nov. 12-16.

While in Chile, the Vietnamese delegation held talks with an economic and trade delegation of Chile led by Minister of External Relations Enrique Silva Cimma. The two sides informed each other of the economic situation in each country and exchanged views on cooperation and investment demands and possibilities of goods exchange between the two countries.

The Vietnamese delegation also visited some industrial and commercial establishments, and met with Chilean businessmen.

On Nov. 15, Minister Le Van Triet and Mr. Enrique Silva Cimma signed an economic and trade agreement between the two countries.

Commentary Discusses Use of International Aid

BK2011133993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Paris Donors Conference pledged $1.86 billion of aid to Vietnam, of which $650 million will be handed to Vietnam in 1994. Radio France International said on Monday that in the coming period, money will pour into Vietnam from Japan, France, Germany, and other countries which recognized the success of Vietnam's renovation so far. Those countries want to know how effectively this aid will be used by Vietnam. Here is our editorial on this issue:

Everyone knows that money cannot solve everything. The most important thing is how to use it effectively and reasonably. This is all the more significant to Vietnam, a poor country which likes capital for reconstruction. In order to put foreign financial aid to good use, the Vietnamese Government has decided to adjust the regulations and management of foreign aid and debt and strengthen the State Planning Committee as the foreign aid coordinator.

The committee will co-chair the appraisal council of important projects and the international bidding council. The Ministry of Finance will be responsible for management of foreign loan and payment of debt.

Vietnam has attached importance to improving technical and management skills of its staff. It strives to avoid loss of foreign aid and insolvency. Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai said: Vietnam should strictly control foreign aid, maintaining its international prestige, otherwise it would be difficult to receive aid in future.

The $1.86 billion aid will be invested in building physical infrastructure, especially road, and developing education and health services of Vietnam.

Relations With Foreign Aid Organizations Viewed

BK2211141993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] While relations between Vietnam and international financial institutions have been developed satisfactorily, results have also been seen in the relations between Vietnam and United Nations organizations, especially the United Nations Development Program or UNDP. According to Mr. Roy Morey, the UNDP representative in Hanoi, his organization is determinded to help Vietnam return to the international community. Here is our radio editor's opinion:

As other UN organizations, UNDP has long-term relations with Vietnam. In recent years, however, UNDP activities became increasingly effective in Vietnam. The UNDP, together with the World Bank, sponsored the recent Donor Conference in Paris.

According to Mr. Morey, UNDP plans to help Vietnam manage and use effectively more than $1.8 billion just approved by that Donor Conference. In its four-year program between 1992-1996, UNDP has earmarked $120 million aid for Vietnam. Under this program, the UNDP has already effectively helped Vietnam in economic, education, health care, social insurance, technical equipment and facilities, personnel training, and the environment. UNDP has paid much attention to timely and necessary investment in personnel training. It has granted scholarship abroad to 6,000 Vietnamese trainees, and provided in-country training for more than 100,000 others. It has also supplied Vietnam with necessary technical data and materials.

Mr. Morey attributed these positive activities to the great efforts of the Vietnamese Government and people in their renovation process. He affirmed that this fact is very impressive to the international community, especially the United Nations, the largest international organization.

Mr. Morey has been working for 16 years in Japan, China, Thailand, and now Vietnam. He said he was very happy to work in Vietnam and to contribute his part to UNDP assistance for this country. Mr. Morey is an American citizen working for the United Nations. He hopes relations between Vietnam and the United States will quickly improve. It is certain that with UNDP goodwill toward Vietnam and Vietnam's efforts in the renovation process, relations between Vietnam and the UNDP as well as other UN organizations will positively develop.

Peasants Association Holds Second Congress

Do Muoi Speech, Part I

BK2011071393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 18 Nov 93

["First part" of speech by Communist Party General Secretary Do Muoi at the opening session of the Vietnam Peasants Association Second Congress in Hanoi on 18 November—recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades: Almost 80 percent of our population lives in the rural areas, and agriculture is still the main production source of our nation. As a result, only by accelerating the industrialization process and extricating the rural areas from backwardness and poverty will we be able to lead our country to overcoming the underdeveloped situation and build our rural areas into the prosperous, beautiful, advanced, and civilized zones. This is one of the stragetic objectives of our revolution. In its efforts to fulfill this mission, the peasantry has closely coordinated with the working class and the intelligentsia to resolve various pressing issues.

During the past years, while implementing the renovation policy of our party and state, the peasantry has made remarkable progress to improve the peasants' daily life. However, generally speaking, the pace of development is still slow, the peasants' material and cultural life is still fraught with difficulties, the agricultural economic structure is still the type of self-reliance system, the one crop cultivation pattern and unemployment issue are still prevalent, while productivity is still low, and labor exploitation is not effective. As a result, our peasants have endured numerous difficulties and hardships in production and business. They have to pay high interest rates, buy materials with high prices and sell their products at a lower price, while equipment and services are not sufficient to meet production requirements. In many places—especially the highland areas, ethnic minority regions, and the former revolutionary zones—such conditions as epidemics, hunger, and shortage are still prevalent. These are pressing issues that we must pay special attention to overcoming as soon as possible.

The party Central Committee Fifth Plenum has issued a resolution on continuing the renovation and developing the socioeconomic situation in the rural areas. This solution has set objectives, orientations, and key tasks aimed at developing the rural economy in the days ahead, thereby meeting the urgent requirements and legitimate aspiration of the people while helping to accelerate the industrialization process. The entire party, people, and echelons of the alliance of peasantry, working class, and the intelligentsia are dutybound to strive to attain these goals.

On this occasion, I would like to stress some points aimed at satisfactorily carrying out the set orientations and tasks to fulfill these goals:

First, we must strive to comprehensively develop the rural economy, optimally exploit and effectively use all sources of energy and potentials in labor, land, forests, the sea, the ecology, capital, and the material-technical bases. We must apply scientific-technological innovations to production, expand the application of intensive cultivation and multicropping methods, effectively exploit the existing cultivated acreage, reclaim and optimally use 10 million hectares of denuded hills and tens of thousands of hectares of land in the coastal regions. We must strive to protect and effectively exploit the vast sea area of our nation, combine economic task with that of national defense, vigorously develop the agro-forestry-fishery domain, restore and develop traditional occupations; expand small industry, handicrafts, and processing and service industries. The state must satisfactorily carry out the campaign to promote agriculture, improve credits, strengthen production insurances, stabilize prices of key products and services, develop agriculture, and improve the rural economic structure in conformity with the policy on increasing production, diversifying occupations, and discouraging the one crop cultivation pattern. We must satisfactorily exploit the favorable conditions and expand the rural markets. If we can satisfactorily carry out these tasks, we will be able to resolve the surplus labor issue [lao doongj duw thuaf], enhance the capability of social labor, and firmly meet the people's requirement in grain and food. Moreover, we must strive to provide sufficient materials to the industrial sector, enhance agricultural production output, increase export values, strengthen accumulations for industrialization, increase incomes, improve the people's daily life, preserve and rationally exploit natual resources, and protect the environment and the ecology.

Second, we must enhance the autonomy of the peasants household economy, especially cooperative-member households and public employee households of state agricultural farms and forestry sites. We must combine this task with that of the effort to venovate the work and activities of cooperatives in accordance with the spirit of the party Central Committee Fifth Plenum's resolution.

We must formulate plans to encourage cooperatives and peasant households to invest in expansion of agricultural production, diversification of agricultural activities, and to strengthen cooperation among peasant households in various forms on voluntary, independent, and mutual beneficial principles. We must strive to make cooperative a genuine economic organization of peasants which will truly enable its members to develop their family economy, thus becoming more attached to the cooperative.

Together with agricultural promotion in the private sector, we must also strive to develop other forms of joint business among different fields such as production, processing, and transportation, or among different economic elements such as the state-managed, the joint business, and private sectors, or between domestic and foreign agencies in order to accelerate the merchandise economy and agricultural industrialization in a new countryside.

We must also reform the organization and renovate the structure of the state-managed sector in a way that enhances the efficiency of the agro-forestry-fishery sector, enabling it to fulfill its goal of being the core force in industry, service, science and technology, culture, and social activities in every locality. Activities of state-managed industry, trade, service, science, finance, and banking sectors must be strengthened to be the core force in socioeconomic development in the countryside, as well as in the development of a cohesive alliance of workers, peasants, and intellects.

Third, we must accelerate the construction of socioeconomic infrastructure and increase at the same time the production force and social welfare programs on the principle of a state-people combined effort. In the coming years, we must focus on developing water conservancy projects that serve both production and domestic needs; and transportation networks in the provinces, districts, and even in villages and hamlets to ensure favorable transportation for both economic merchandise as well as people's needs. The electricity network in the countryside must be expanded in line with the improvement in tight management in order to reduce power fees and increase the number of power users. We will also rebuild or continually upgrade schools, hospitals, and medical stations in order to meet demands for education and medical treatment of people in the countryside. People should be encouraged to help each other build houses and other social welfare facilities that suit the particular ethnic customs of each locality.

Fourth, efforts should be exerted to develop social and cultural activities and to continually improve people's knowledge, living standards, and democracy in the countryside. We should implement consistently a policy to encourage people to amass wealth legally, coupled with programs to eliminate hunger and reduce poverty. Hygienic and medical prevention campaigns should be expanded to encourage people to employ good habits in maintaining cleanliness in their living places as well as in their food. Family planning programs should be strengthened to effectively reduce the population growth rate, reduce malnutrition, and eliminate illiteracy. We must also strive for minimum education standards at a primary level, develop the radio and television broacasting network, open more libraries and cultural houses, preserve and develop national identities, cultural traditions, and our fine customs and norms. We should also get rid of outdated customs, superstitious activities, and social ills.

Democracy and social equality should be strived for. All forms of coercing the people, corruption, bribery, [words indistinct], and excessive-interest loans must be prevented. We will set up national funds for everyone to have a chance to show their gratitude to the families who have meritorious contributions to the country, the fallen heroes, and war invalids. Warm relationships among people in rural neighborhoods should be encouraged as it will help strengthen solidarity in the countryside and the all-peoples national defense strategy as well as the peoples security strategy, which is vital in countering reactionary plots to sabotage or cause disorder, and to safeguard the political security and the social order and safety.

Do Muoi Speech, Part II

BK2111034293 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 18 Nov 93

["Last part" of speech by Communist Party General Secretary Do Muoi at the opening session of the Vietnam Peasants Association Second Congress in Hanoi on 18 November—recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades: In the past, the Vietnam Peasants Association [VPA] has made some consolidating and progressive steps. Together with the government, different sectors, and mass organizations, it has positively motivated the peasants to implement the party and state's lines and policies. It has launched many emulative movements for production increase, life improvement, mutual assistance, and infrastructure construction in the countryside. It has helped implement social welfare policies, firmly maintain national defense and security, and so forth. Thus, it has created positive changes in agriculture and in the rural areas.

However, the VPA has not been quick to reform its organization and its working contents and methods. Its structure is cumbersome and carries characteristics of an administration body. It has not been able to widely gather all peasants in its organization. Its activities, from the central to the grass roots levels, have been incoherent and far from meeting the country's requirements and the practical demands of the peasants, agriculture, and rural areas in the industrialization process of our new economic structure.

Therefore, the VPA must quickly reform its organization and working contents and methods to meet the current requirements. It must also positively prepare for new rural and national requirements in the new situation. The VPA Executive Central Committee report at this congress already presented the orientations and duties of the VPA in the coming years. Now, I would like to mention some points:

The VPA is a sociopolitical organization which widely gathers peasants of all strata under the party leadership. It works under the state Constitution and laws. Its main working areas are in the rural areas, villages, and hamlets where daily activities directly affect the agricultural production and lives of dozens of millions of peasant families.

The VPA must thoroughly understand the thinking and aspirations of the peasants so that it can work with them to settle any problems. A tendency to develop a commodity economy under the market mechanism with the state management will revive and create many traditional handicrafts and new skills in the countryside, ranging from cultivation, husbandry, and handicraft to industry and services in an abundant and diversified form. Better production and more technical skills will lead to an increased demand for cooperation. In order to create favorable conditions for better coordination, production, capital, technologies, experiences, and marketing in production and business and to protect its legitimate interests, the VPA must reform itself, improve its organization, and define its working contents and concrete activities to meet the peasants' practical socioeconomic demands. It must create a strong dynamic in every branch, village, hamlet, and cooperative group. On that foundation, the association will then strengthen its organization to attract more peasants and establish branches in all localities and socioeconomic sectors of the countryside. It must ensure that all its activities will lead to practical results, meeting the peasants' interests, demands, and expectations.

The VPA is a main center for regular activities of peasants and revolutionary peasant organizations to develop the socioeconomy, build a new rural area, push back negative phenomena and social evils, and protect the peasants' legitimate rights. It is also a place to develop the peasants' strength which is multiplied many times by the strength of different local mutual assistance groups to help the poor, improve the financial situation of the average, and help the rich become wealthier, as Uncle Ho used to teach us.

The VPA is a place to organize and motivate peasants to build families of new culture and new peasants. The new peasants are people who attach themselves to national independence, socialism, and to the party. They also attach their own interests to the community benefits and social welfare. They are the masters of the countryside with an increasingly better spiritual and material life. Their cultural, scientific, and technological level will be on par with the agricultural development and the industrialization and modernization in the countryside. These progressive steps require the peasants to adapt to new technologies and technological science. The VPA must coordinate with different sectors and government organs to create favorable conditions to foster, train, and upgrade the knowledge and skills of the peasants, especially the young generation.

To satisfactorily perform the aforementioned functions and tasks, all echelons of the VPA must renovate themselves organizationally and in terms of work methods. As they are not administrative organs, they must associate themselves closely with realistic peasant activities. They must know how to organize the peasants' movement and to motivate, guide, and join with their grass roots establishments in carrying out actitivies, and trying to transform party and state policies and lines into peasants' revolutionary actions. All echelons of the VPA must firmly grasp and reflect the feelings and aspirations of peasants. They must recommend to the party and state those policies and lines that can meet peasants' aspirations and they must help inspect work implementation. Together with responsible sectors, they must guide peasants in organizing various activities such as credit operations, agricultural promotion, product consumption, and material supply. They must help peasants develop production and carry out the rural socioeconomic development program.

As peasant motivation is one of the most important tasks of the party, every party cadre and member in rural areas must set good examples in participating in the organization and activities of the VPA. They must serve as a backbone force in the mass movement, attentively listen to and promptly give feedback to the party on critical peasant views as well as peasant feelings and aspirations. They must help tighten the relationship between the party and peasants.

Party committee echelons must renovate the party's leadership method toward the VPA. They must not take over or do the job of the VPA [words indistinct]. Through party and youth union organizations of the VPA, they must strengthen party leadership over peasants and must coordinate activities between the party and the VPA. They must recommend capable and prestigious party commitee members to participate in VPA leadership. They must take responsibility of relevant party committees for the organization and activities of the VPA. They must pay attention to uncovering and training those outstanding peasants, especially those who, with good performance and with a determination to struggle for our common cause, are trusted by people, so as to admit them into the party. They must resolve to remove disqualified members from the party.

The administration at various levels, from the center down to the grass roots, must create conditions to help the VPA carry out its activities successfully. As an immediate task, it must cooperate with the VPA in discussing a plan to deploy and implement the policy to deliver land for long-term use to peasants, as well as other policies in accordance with the spirit and letter of the party Central Committee's fifth plenum resolution. It must also, via state law, try to guarantee democratic principles, rural solidarity, and social justice, do away with corruption, bribery, oppression of the people, social vices, firmly maintain public order and discipline, and help further push rural socioeconomic development forward.

As a member of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the VPA is duty- bound to cooperate with other members of the front in strengthening and expanding the all-people national unity bloc and to motivate our peasants nationwide to develop their glorious traditions and to strive to score even-greater achievements in the causes of renovating the country and building and defending the fatherland.

In compliance with our party and state's foreign policy, the VPA must strengthen its relations with peasant organizations in various countries; exchange experiences with and learn from their experiences; enhance friendship; and contribute to the cause of peace, cooperation, and development.

Dear comrades: The party Central Committee believes that the Second National VPA Congress will be a new landmark in the growth of the VPA and of our national peasants movement and that it will contribute duly to the cause of achieving socioeconomic development, rural industrialization, and agricultural modernization for our entire people if we are to make our people prosperous, our country powerful, and our society equal and civilized, and step by step build socialism successfully.

I wish you, comrades, good health and your congress a fine success.

Peasants Congress Concludes

BK2011105593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Report by station correspondent Hoai Thu]

[Summary] "Dear friends: This morning, the Vietnam Peasants Association national congress entered its second working day. Early in the morning session, deputies from Ninh Binh, Dong Nai, and Lai Chau Provinces continued to express their views on measures to develop the home economy, eliminate hunger, reduce poverty, accelerate mutual help among peasants, step up family planning activities, and rennovate the organization and activities of the association."

The congress secretariat then delivered a summary report on contributions made by the deputies to the draft political report, the association draft regulations amendment, and the draft resolution of the Peasants Association Second National Congress. The report included suggestions and petitions made to the party and state by the congress regarding the rennovation and development of socioeconomic life in the countryside.

"The Peasants Association Second National Congress elected a new Standing Committee consisting of 77 comrades. Comrade Nguyen Van Chinh, member of the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee, was reelected president of the association. Comrade Nguyen Duc Trieu, member of the CPV Central Committee, and Comrade Nguyen Thi Hue were elected as vice presidents.

"The closing ceremony was also held this morning. Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi, Comrade President Le Duc Anh, and many party and state leading comrades were present. Comrade Nguyen Van Chinh, member of the CPV Central Committee and president of the Vietnam Peasants Association, delivered the closing speech."

Do Muoi at National Students Congress Opening

BK2211145193 Hanoi VNA in English 1439 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 22—The Fifth National Congrees of the Vietnam Students' Association opened here this morning.

Communist Party General Secretary Do Muoi and other leading officials of the party, the state, the Fatherland Front and other mass organizations were among those present at the opening ceremony.

The two-day congress is attended by official delegates representing 170,000 students throughout the country and a number of foreign students studying in Vietnam and overseas Vietnamese students.

The congress will review and assess the association's activites and students' movement over the past years, work out a programme of actions for the 1993-97 period, pass the association's statute (amended) and elect a new leadership of the association.

Addressing the congress, the party leader commended students for their valuable contributions to national construction and defence and their achievements in study and training at present when the country is under the current revovation process. He said:

'Our party and state always attach great importance to promoting the human factor, considering human beings the most valuable resources as well as the most noble target: all by the people and all for the happiness of people, and intellect is the biggest natural resource of the nation. Therefore, raising the people's knowledge, improving the people's health, training manpower, fostering talented people and putting them in important position are of strategic significance and a decisive factor to the future of the country. Special attentions should be paid to caring for the young generation, the students and the youth in general.

'...The youth should nurture ambitions. For the time being, their ideals and ambitions should constitute patriotism, pride in the nation, the spirit of self-reliance and aspirations to go ahead in order to free the country from poverty and backwardness, to build a rich and strong country and an equal and civilized society, thus step by step successfully building a socialist society and making the country 'more prosperous and beautiful' as cherished by President Ho Chi Minh.'

The party leader continued:

'Caring for the future generation is the prime important task of the whole society. That's why, together will persistant efforts by the students, the party, the state, the authorities and branches of activities at all levels, mass organizations, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and the Students' Association included, must have plans to ensure better education and training and a better daily life for students and to create favourable conditions for them to study and train themselves'.

Vo Van Kiet Attends Vietsovpetro Gathering

BK2311075793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 22 Nov 93

[Summary From Poor Reception] On the afternoon of 22 November in Vung Tau City, the Vietsovpetro joint venture enterprise celebrated the 20 millionth tonne of petrol produced by the enterprise, which was recorded on 12 November. Attending the function were Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, His Excellency (Yurigravchit Sudovich Khajan), Russian ambassador to Vietnam, leading comrades of the Vietnam Oil and Natural Gas General Corporation, and representatives from various departments and sectors at central and local levels.

Speaking to the Vietsovpetro cadres and workers, the prime minister stressed:

[Begin Vo Van Kiet recording] "While exploiting petrol in the Bach Ho [White Tiger] oil field, you comrades need to plan and research carefully [words indistinct], in order to boost your contributions to the national oil and gas production output of 1994 and later years. In addition to prospecting for and extracting oil, you should also pay attention to protecting the environment. Cadres and workers should always abide by technological procedures and regulations, as well as the safety regulations for yourselves and your equipment. Moreover, you also need to carry out more research on industrial and technological sanitation so that we can keep the environment clean on and off-shore." [end recording]

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet conferred the Independence Order Third Class on the Vietsovpetro cadres and workers. Cadres and workers with meritorious records also received awards and letters of recognition.

Vice President Visits Tra Vinh Province

BK2011154993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh paid a working visit to Tra Vinh Province from 14 to 15 November. Comrades Bui Quang Huy, secretary of the provincial party committee; Le Tat Thang, chairman of the provincial people's council; and Trieu Van Be, chairman of the provincial people's committee, briefed the vice president on the socioeconomic situation in Tra Vinh over the two years since the province was formed. The comrades also reported on plans and orientations for 1994-95.

Speaking during a working session with the leaders of Tra Vinh, Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh stressed the practicality of the socioeconomic projects being carried out by the locality, as well as the infrastructure construction, especially the water conservation and fresh water supply projects. She also reminded local leaders to pay attention to the campaign against hunger and poverty and the implementation of the land laws.

In the domain of social welfare, Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh reminded party committees, people's committees, and people's councils at all levels to pay appropriate care and concern to the essential needs of the people, the entitlements of social pension recipients, and settlement of people of Khmer origin. Concerned agencies should strive for coordination to implement the law on compulsory education in primary schools and gradually eliminate illiteracy and health white areas [areas without medical services] among the ethnic minority people.

Local leaders should also strive to improve and further training for the contingent of local cadres, helping them reach a higher efficiency level so that they can effectively lift Tra Vinh Province out of hunger and poverty and advance along with the other provinces in the Mekong River Delta area.

Also during this visit, Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh paid a visit to a temple of President Ho Chi Minh in Long Duc Village; Phuong Thanh Village, where large population of Khmer people live; Phuong Thanh A Primary School; Tra Vinh General Hospital; and a number of medical stations where the campaign to immunize children is taking place.

Leaders Attend Seminar on Culture in Hanoi

BK2111120993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] In Hanoi on 19 November, the Ministry of Culture and Information, the Literature and Arts Associations Union's Central Committee, and the National Social Science and Humanism Institute jointly organized a scientific seminar to mark the 50th anniversary of the declaration of the Vietnamese Cultural Platform.

Nguyen Duc Binh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, and Nguyen Khanh, deputy prime minister, attended and addressed the seminar

The 40 reports presented at the seminar asserted that during the past 50 years, the Vietnamese Cultural Platform has proven to be a historical document of great significance. This indicates that the party has a correct insight into the activities of the people's daily life, in which culture plays a very important role. Many reports hailed our party efforts to supplement and develop concepts on culture, the arts, and literature to suit the new situation.

Radio Comments on First Catholic Congress

BK2211141793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 19 Nov 93

[From the "Talk of the Week" program]

[Text] The First Congress of Catholics in Ho Chi Minh City was held recently. Mr. Nguyen Van Linh, former party general secretary and now adviser to the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, attended the congress. He told the participants of the Vietnamese Government's policies on Catholicism and Vietnamese Catholics.

He said: In Vietnam now there are Catholic preachers, priests, and followers who are allowed to act in the interests of both the church and the nation. Over the past 18 years, thanks to efforts made by Archbishop Nguyen Van Vinh, [words indistinct] Catholicism and the nation, mutual understandings between Catholics and the revolution are strong. Catholic people have participated in national construction and national defense. The position of Catholicism has been confirmed in the heart of the nation.

Mr. Nguyen Van Linh affirmed that the Vietnamese party and state have never presented or caused obstacles to the appointments of bishops but always wishes that such appointments are discussed with and approved by the Vietnamese Government. This fact has been acknowledged by Catholic people from all walks of life. That is why the recent Catholic Congress in Ho Chi Minh City was attended by a large number of priests. It also approved that at present Catholic priests and people in Ho Chi Minh City have been supported in selecting the way to go with the nation.

Mr. Nguyen Van Linh, one of the initiates of the renovation process in Vietnam, quoted some of the Catholic people as saying that before being Catholics, they were Vietnamese. It is correct to say that as Vietnamese they must abide by the Vietnamese law and protect Vietnamese sovereignty.

There are many people who want to clash the rights of Catholicism with the rights of the nation. They maintained that Catholicism is being (?blocked) so they have to defend the church by all means. Nguyen Van Linh pointed out that it was not correct to argue that because there were contradictions between the rights of the church and those of the nation. The Vietnamese party and state do not try to stop religions, but always try to develop them.

Mr. Nguyen Van Linh told the Catholic people to carry out their activities in the open and not to let anyone, under any names, take cover to design dark plots. In reality, religious activities in Ho Chi Minh City as well as in other places of Vietnam are relatively free and relations between religions and the nation are good. It is sure that the religious activities will further develop and other activities of the country are doing so. [sentence as heard]

Government Issues Directive on Land Law

BK2111074993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 19 Nov 93

[Text] On 8 November, the prime minister issued a directive on the implementation of the Law on the Use of Agriculture Land. The directive reads:

The Law on the Use of Agriculture Land promulgated by the Third Session of the Ninth National Assembly is of special importance. Strictly implementing this law and the revised Law on Land will contribute an important share to the development of agriculture production, the improvement of the peasants' life, and the stabilization of the socioeconomic situation in the countryside.

The government has issued many decrees with detailed regulations on the implementation of the Law on the Use of Agriculture Land. To ensure the tax collection is in conformity with the said law, the prime minister requests the finance minister and the chairmen of the people's committees of provinces and cities to immediately carry out the following duties and measures:

1. Using all possible information and propaganda, they must inform every peasant household of the complete content of the law and the government's decrees on the land tax. They have to clarify the party and state's viewpoints on agricultural production and on rural areas. They have to explain the fundamental changes of this tax compared with previous decrees on agricultural tax. At the same time, they must state the peasants' rights, responsibility, and duties in observing this law.

2. They are to organize and provide close instructions to define local land and its classification for tax purpose. This must be completed by the end of first quarter of 1994 so that a tax file can be established and tax collection under the new law can be applied in 1994. With respect to localities which have not completed the definition of local land and its classification, the Ministry of Finance should provide concrete instructions so that tax can be temporarily collected before a final calculation can be reached. They have to inform the peasants about this.

3. The people's committees at all levels must intensify their supervision of the implementation of the Law on the Use of Agriculture Land. They must gain rapid experience and correct possible mistakes in the implementation process.

4. Ministers and directors of central organs must instruct their sectors at different levels to carry these tasks:

—The finance minister is responsible for guiding and supervising the implementation of the Law on the Use of Agriculture Land. Every three months he must report to the prime minister on the progress of the implementation.
—The finance minister must ensure adequate funds and information for the propaganda and the implementation of the Law on the Use of Agriculture Land in the entire country.
—The minister of agriculture and food industry is to coordinate with the Finance Ministry to provide instructions on land classification in all localities.
—The general director of the Land Management Commission is to coordinate with the Finance Ministry to define the areas for tax collection in all localities.
—Ministries, sectors, and social organizations with enterprises and administration units using land for agricultural production must immediately implement the Law on the Use of Agriculture Land in their own sector. They are also responsible to help the taxation service to carry out their duty under this directive.
—Mass organizations and mass media agencies at the central and local levels should coordinate with state organs to impart information on the Law on the Use of Agriculture Land.

The prime minister empowers the finance minister with the authority to supervise the implementation of this directive.

Province Takes Action Against Illegal Loggers

BK2111094693 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 18 Nov 93

[Text] The Gia Lai Provincial People's Committee recently decided to terminate the operations of 21 timber processing establishments. It took action against 25 units and individuals for illegal logging and imposed 95 million dong in fines on them.

The provincial inspection team, during its recent inspections at 42 establishments, detected many cases of illegal logging. The Gia Trung Reeducation Camp, for instance, has cut trees and sold 462 cubic meters of timber even though it is only authorized to produce handicrafts. Many villages in the province have engaged in illegal logging. During its inspection work at these establishments, the inspection team confiscated 1,075 cubic meters of round timber and 109 cubic meters of plank wood, worth about 600 million dong.

Australia

Officials React to Keating Criticism of Mahathir

BK2311100193 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0630 GMT 23 Nov 93

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] Senior members of the Australian Government are forced to play down Prime Minister Paul Keating's criticism of his Malaysian counterpart, Dr. Mahathir. During an interview in Seattle yesterday, Mr. Keating described Dr. Mahathir as recalcitrant for not attending last weekend's leaders meeting of APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation], the Asia-Pacific economic group. Mr. Keating also said he didn't care whether the Malaysian prime minister attended the next leaders' meeting of the Asia-Pacific economic group, APEC. Mark Tamhane in Canberra reports Mr. Keating has received widespread criticism for his comments about Dr. Mahathir.

[Begin recording] [Keating] I don't know and I don't care. I am sick of asking questions about Dr. Mahathir. Everyone has a chance to come here. If he didn't come, that's his business. The thing about it was there was just a very historic meeting. Please don't ask me any more questions about Dr. Mahathir. I couldn't care less, frankly, whether he comes or not. APEC is bigger than all of us—Australia, the U.S., and Malaysia, and Dr. Mahathir and any other recalcitrants.

[Tamhane] Those excerpts from the press conference in Seattle have received widespread media attention in Australia. Headlines such as Keating Dismisses Mahathir on APEC, Keating Hits Mahathir's APEC Snub, and Keating Attacks APEC Boycott adorn the front pages of Australian newspapers today. In a commentary, Greg Sheridan, the foreign editor of the national daily THE AUSTRALIAN, describes Mr. Keating's statements as idiotically gratuitous, saying that while these sorts of outbursts are all very well in Australia, they are fantastically stupid when dealing with Southeast Asia. The premier of Western Australia, Richard Court, has described Mr. Keating's comments as politically stupid and foreign diplomacy at its worst. He claims Western Australia's lucrative trade with Malaysia has been harmed and says he'll make it clear Western Australia dissociates itself from the prime minister's remarks. Mr. Keating has made no public statements on the matter since returning to Australia. But Foreign Minister Gareth Evans agreed to speak briefly about the prime minister's comments to reporters.

[Evans] Let me say just this. I believe that Dr. Mahathir will understand the context in which Mr. Keating's remarks were made. He hasn't after all shirked from making the occasional vigorous statement himself, particularly when provoked to do so by media inquiries, media interrogation. It is the case that it's disappointing that Dr. Mahathir chose not to attend this particular conference, but he did obviously have his own reasons for doing so. I don't think we ought to overplay the whole question of attendance or non-attendance or remarks made about it. Certainly that should not be allowed in anyway to undermine the significance of what really has been a supremely important occasion for the region and indeed for world trade. And the other point I'd make is this: I don't think we should ever underestimate or undervalue the contribution that Malaysia has been making to the whole APEC process. So, [words indistinct] word of the leaders' meeting that they have been present and they have been active, they have been effective. They are useful contributors to the committees, the working groups, and the ministerial meetings. And I certainly hope and expect that Malaysia will go on playing their constructive role...

[Unidentified correspondent, interrupting] Thank you very much.

[Tamhane] Senator Evans refused to answer any more questions about Mr. Keating's Seattle remarks. Meanwhile, Australian foreign affairs officials say they haven't yet received any official reaction from Kuala Lumpur to Mr. Keating's criticism of Dr. Mahathir. But what about the longer term impact of Mr. Keating's comments? I asked Australia's trade minister, Peter Cook, if he thought these type of remarks would harm our diplomatic and trade interests in Asia by reinforcing perceptions of Australians as brash and rude.

[Cook] I don't think so. Look, we could have developed a mature relationship. It's not as if we're new neighbors discovering each other for the first time and reacting in a sort of wondrous strange way; our peculiar behavior. We know each other. We have been on this bloc for a long time. We have got developed relationships. Paul Keating, more than most leaders in Australia, has particularly paid attention to Malaysia. This year he's been to Indonesia, China, Japan, Taiwan, and previous to that has visited many of the other cities in this region, and Singapore, I shouldn't leave them out, of course. So, you know, it's not as if we're strangers and these shots in the dark come from far way away. We are friends, basically, and in a friendly and mature relationship, these comments are (?seen as) what they are—a sense of frustration. Not with Dr. Mahathir, it will... [pauses] but with the media who keep pestering about these issues. [end recording]